



the anchor

October 2009

From the Pastor

Patience, patience, patience.

Did I say patience?

Sometimes I hate being patient! I'm so anxious to be finished the work on our new building. I can't wait to be sitting in my new office and have all of us worshipping in our new sanctuary together. Someone said this process has been like having your first baby. Labor is almost finished and you just can't wait...

But of course you have to!

And, of course, all our hard labor will have been well worth it!

As I'm writing these words, we're within days of having the inspectors come in to do their work. As I wait (impatiently) I reflect on what a wonderful labor of love this project has been over such a long period of time. As I look at our congregation, I can't see a single person who hasn't been involved in some meaningful way. To be sure, EVERYONE has offered something to make this possible out of their time, talents and treasures!

A few nights ago about forty folks met in our new sanctuary for a worship assistants meeting. It felt wonderful to be sitting there together in that place. Most every face was bright with a smile as we sat there - comfortably - contemplating all the blessed possibilities of our new home!

God has most certainly been good to us. As a congregation. As families. As individuals. And God calls us through our community together to multiply and magnify that goodness into all our other communities!

In short order we'll begin our move from Pleasant Grove to 3295 Old Highway 5 South. It's barely a ten-mile journey, and yet it will be one filled with all the joys and promise of our on-going mission and of the deep sense of - coming home!

Today - as every day - we give thanks to our Lord for His love and for His patience with us. And we thank Him, too, for giving US the strength and the patience to follow the leading of His Holy Spirit through all our continuing work!

Hope's New Logo

Check out the new logo at the top of this page! This logo was designed by Judy Harvey. It is taken from her artwork for "The Anchor of Hope" stained glass window in the new church building and will be used on our letterhead, labels, name tags, and anywhere else a logo is appropriate. Many thanks to Judy for this beautiful symbol of Hope Church.

Notes From Council

At their September 16th meeting, Council heard several financial reports and approved some adjustments to balance out building expenses. The 2009-2010 budget was discussed and prepared for church-wide approval. Church members will be asked to consider a \$30 per month contribution going forward to assist with paying down the new mortgage. An offering to be taken at the dedication of the new church, with matching funds from Thrivent, will go to Kids Ferst.

Our youth will sell cookbooks at the Apple Festival. They are also organizing a Service Corp which will provide services to congregation members. Specifics are being worked out.

Council members for the coming church year were elected at the Annual Meeting. Returning council members are Roger Ashcraft, Diane Burton, Juanita Littleton, Shawn Stoffer and Chris Westerman. New members are Michael Bates, Nathan Bates, Emil Harvey, Dick Nagel, and Kim Waid. Officers will be elected by Council at their October meeting.

Upcoming Ladies Events



Ladies, mark your calendars for these special occasions.

Annual Ladies Luncheon, November 14th

Prayer Workshop, December 4th and 5th

Letter from the Odehnals

To Our Hope Family:

Words cannot express our appreciation for the outpouring of love, prayers and service from you during the recent death of our daughter and wife, Tobi. I thank God everyday for such a wonderful and giving church family. I would like to share a tribute written by my friend Heidi Mitchell about Tobi:

You can shed tears that she is gone,
or you can smile because she has lived.
You can close your eyes and pray that she'll come back,
or you can open your eyes and see all she's left.
Your heart can be empty because you can't see her,
or you can be full of the love you shared.
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday,
or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.
You can remember her only that she is gone,
or you can cherish her memory and let it live on.
You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back,
or you can do what she'd want: Smile, open your eyes, love and go on.

-- Steve & Mollie Odehnal and Sean McLean

Ministry Teams

The following people make up the Hope Ministry Teams at the present time. Feel free to contact them to volunteer or offer suggestions.

Keeping In Touch Ministry Team: Helen Gordon, June Edgemon, Sylvia Johnson, Laura Rogne;

Christian Education Team: Vicki Christensen, Kim Waid, Bea Perigo, Tamie Bradley, Laura Rogne, Nancy Hinton, Doug Goplin and Janet Smedley;

Fellowship Team: Diana Barbato, Ron Rogne, Laura Rogne, Kim Waid, Maureen Bremm, Barbara Fail, Barbara Bell, Gunther Rankenburg, and all the folks of Hope who contribute so much to our fellowship events;

Property Team: Kermit Littleton, Jim Lyons, Bill Fail, Mike Christensen, Vern Haugen, Ron Rogne, Dick Nagel, Rich Hein;

Worship and Music Team: Maureen Bremm, Bob Martin, Joanne Cleberg, Pastor Dave Smedley, Laura Rogne;

Altar Guild: Joanne Cleberg, Charlene Ivey, Sally Burke, Kay Hein, Heidi Kosarick, Barbara Fail, Juanita Littleton;

Family and Youth Ministry Team: Diane Burton, Vicki Christensen, Jennifer Bates, Maureen Bremm, Pastor Dave Smedley, Nick Christensen, Tim Christensen, Nathan Bates, Joseph Bates, Bryan Bremm;

Contacts for our various Bible Studies: Ellijay Men's - Joe Waid; Jasper Men's - Rich Hein; Monday Evening - Judy Kruger; Quilters - Betty Haugen and June Edgemon; Women's Sunday - Janet Smedley; Men's Sunday - Doug Goplin;

Finance Team: Roger Ashcraft, Christine Westerman, Steve Austin, Emil Harvey, Stan Ashworth, Jim Petersen, Vern Haugen, Shawn Stoffer, Bill Are;

Audit Committee: Rudy Kruger, Dick Nagel, John Owens (and Jan Austin as consultant;)

Building Team: Larry Westerman, Jim Lyons, Paul Schmidt, Bruce Deppa, Vicki Christensen, Rudy Jaspersen, Vern Haugen, Bob Armstrong, Barbara Bell, Juanita Littleton (council liaison);

2010 Nominating Committee: Joe Holt, Richard Bowers, Rich Hein, Maureen Bremm and two people leaving council next year yet to be named;

Congregation Council: Diane Burton, Christine Westerman, Kim Waid, Shawn Stoffer, Mike Bates, Emil Harvey, Juanita Littleton, Dick Nagel, Roger Ashcraft and Nathan Bates.

Executive Committee: (Council officers yet to be determined) and Pastor Dave Smedley.

OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS



3-Oct Teddy Jonason
4-Oct Sharon Lombardo
6-Oct Rose Bell
6-Oct Melba Holt
7-Oct Sara Eubanks
13-Oct Carri McClure
16-Oct Nathaneal Bates
16-Oct Belinda Hayes
17-Oct Jamie Pond
18-Oct Barbara Fail
21-Oct Donna Crofoot
22-Oct Len Norwillo
24-Oct Steve Odehnal
24-Oct Max Payne
27-Oct Crissy Kafer
27-Oct Elene Rivers

28-Oct Hunter Waid
29-Oct Barbara Payne
29-Oct Patsy Schmidt
29-Oct Penny Tankersley
30-Oct Betty Haugen

ANNIVERSARIES



2-Oct Michael & Kathy Ballard
5-Oct Charlotte & Kenneth Grewe
5-Oct Kim & Joe Waid
11-Oct Mary Anne & Gunther Rankenburg
23-Oct Carol & Roger Ashcraft
24-Oct Kat & Bill Are
24-Oct Maureen & Robert Bremm



Apple Festival is Approaching

The 2009 Gilmer Apple Festival is nearly here. The dates are October 10-11 and 17-18. We need set-up and tear-down folks, counter workers, cooks, money collectors and drink specialists! Talk with Diane Burton at (706) 636-2395, or Pastor Dave at (706) 636-4673. Together we'll have another great year at the Apple Festival.



October Worship Assistants

Assisting Ministers

4 Nick Christensen
11 Maureen Bremm
18 Vicki Christensen
25 Laura Rogne

Lectors 8:30

4 Wayne Buehler
11 Ann Buehler
18 Kermit Littleton
25 Jan Austin

Acolytes 8:30

4 Cody Hinton
11 Bryan Bremm
18 TBA
25 Hope Bobak

Communion 8:30

4 Rich & Kay Hein
11 Kermit & Juanita Littleton
18 Steve & Jan Austin
25 Charlene Ivy & Sally Burke

Greeters 8:30

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

Ushers 8:30

4 Sally Burke & Charlene Ivey
14 Dick & Phyllis Nagel
18 Rich & Kay Hein
25 Kermit & Juanita Littleton

Counters

Shawn Stoffer & Bill Are
Jim Peterson & Chris Westerman
Stan Ashworth & Vern Haugen
Emil Harvey & Bill Are

10:30

Len Norwillo
Barbara Bell
Nicholas Christensen
Barbara Fail

10:30

Justen Trahan
Leah Jonason
Natalie Givens-Waid
Brannen Trahan

10:30

Len & Jean Norwillo
Keith & Barbara Bell
Mike & Vicki Christensen
Bill & Barbara Fail

10:30

Roger & Carol Ashworth
Vern & Betty Haugen
Bud Cochran & Sylvia Johnson
Rudy & Judy Kruger

10:30

Bill & Barbara Fail
Emil & Judy Harvey
Jim & Jean Lyons
Bill & Kat Are

The Hope Staff

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Pastor Smedley: 706.692.2557

Accompanist: Rae Reta Peel: 706.635.6115

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Music Director: Bob Martin: 706.635.4986

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Laura Rogne: 706.276.1614

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Church: 706.636.4673

Home: 706.276.2375

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Maintenance: Nancy Hinton: 706.280.1970



Officers & Congregational Council

President To be determined

Vice President To be determined

Secretary To be determined

Treasurer Roger Ashcraft

Financial Secretary Steve Austin

Council Members:

Roger Ashcraft Juanita Littleton

Michael Bates Dick Nagel

Nathan Bates Shawn Stoffer

Diane Burton Christine Westerman

Emil Harvey Kim Waid

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