

JOURNEY OF HOPE

JULY 2022 | VOL. 25

THE JOURNAL

SPIRIT LAKE MISSION SUCCESS

Dark and early on a Sunday morning, fifteen bleary eyed people loaded up into vehicles and began a thirteen-hour drive. Through dark of night, dense fog of morning, and into the bright sunshine of the afternoon, these hopeful individuals arrived some 750 miles later in remote North Dakota, ready to “be flexible” with whatever is asked of them. After an evening worship service from Pastor Mike, and a wonderful meal prepared by our in-residence chef, Libby, they were ready.



Inclement weather, inconsistent tools, and a request to be flexible would not slow this group down. They attacked projects with passion, pouring their heart and souls into construction, scraping, priming, and painting. By the time the week was over, even though the projects were not completed, there was a sense of accomplishment, maybe not so much in the projects,

“Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power to work within us, to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen..”
(Ephesians 3:20-21, ESV)

FROM THE DESK OF YOUR PASTOR

You might recognize the scripture passage from above as our focus scripture from the 531 Initiative. I believe that because of this breakthrough prayer initiative, we have encountered the C.A.T. assessment and therefore, received three goals to work on in the vision of Journey of Hope. God is certainly moving in the life of this church and the lives of all of you.

Out of the results of the survey, you told us that there are many important aspects of ministry. Among them are the top three which we have now turned into goals for this next year (or sooner). They are focusing on young families, incorporating new members and guests into the life of the church,

Jan Barry has offered to lead the group looking into attracting young families. This will not only look at ways to accomplish this within the walls of Journey of Hope, but also what this might look like in a new location and possibly a different worship service. This will be an exciting group of unlimited possibilities. I hope that you would join her in planning for the future!

Mareen Stanley and Teri Rosenberg will be discerning ways to help our newest members, guests, and even current members connect even deeper within the ministries of Journey of Hope. (cont. on page 6)

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GOD IS CERTAINLY MOVING IN THE LIFE OF THIS CHURCH AND THE LIVES OF ALL OF YOU.

”

and helping those ‘broken by life circumstances.’ I will be helping to guide these groups and the conversations as we strive to grow and multiply our ministry into our community and beyond.

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GARAGE SALE

DEALS! DEALS! DEALS! Come shop our Garage Sale and give a new home to the gently used items that have been donated to the event.

Sale dates are Friday, July 15 from 8am - 5pm & Saturday, July 16 from 8am - 2pm.

Do you have items (sorry, no clothing) you would like to donate? Find dates and times online under our "Upcoming Events" section on our home page, stop by the Welcome Center or call the office.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

We need your help in order to make this event a huge success. There are lots of times available to help. Sign up today at the Welcome Center, call the office or online.



UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH (UWF) FIELD TRIP

As we plan to update and replace our landscape our goal is to use native plant species which will help protect our environment. United Women of Faith has planned a field trip on Tuesday, July 12th to tour local gardens and prairies in the Elgin to help us determine which plants we should use in our landscape update. This event is open to anyone interested in updating our landscape and our monthly meeting will be part of this field trip. We hope to see everyone there for a walk with nature. **Sign Up Here**.

SPIRIT LAKE MISSION SUCCESS *(cont. from page 1)*

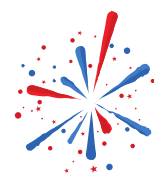
but in building relationships and loving on neighbors.

This team of energizer bunnies learned about the culture, the surroundings, and the horrific pasts that many of our Native American siblings have endured. Drumbeats ring through their heads as they try to be still before unmarked graves, boarding schools, and sacred spaces of the past. They returned just six days later with hearts and minds opened, forever changed.

This is a trip they will not forget, but also one they would like to share. Talk with any of them and they will invite you to make this sacred journey to a land filled with history and stories. Maybe you will find yourself available next year for this short trip. Projects, stories, and relationships await. You might even hear about "These two Hittites!"



JULY



Sunday Worship S & FB Live @ 9:15am Fellowship Time CR @ 10:15am Group Studies M3 @ 10:15am	Monday Walking Bible Study Parsonage @ 6:30am <i>**if rain, meet in SR</i>	Wednesday Panera Bible Study SE Panera @ 6am Pathways Worship S & FB Live @ 7pm	Thursday Prayer Service SR & FB Live @ 7am Coffee w/ the Pastor SR @ 7:30pm Stitches of Hope M5 @ 1pm 5 Cups of Coffee U1 @ 7pm	Friday 5 Cups of Coffee U1 @ 9:30am
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Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

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3 MANNA Orders PADS, 5pm	4 Happy 4th of July No Walking Bible Study	5 Care Team, 1pm Trustees, 7pm	6	7	8 Game Night, 7pm	9
10 Garage Sale SetUp 6-8pm	11 Garage Sale SetUp	12 Garage Sale Set Up Garden Field Trip / UWF Mtg, 10am SPRC, 7pm	13 Garage Sale Set Up	14 Garage Sale Set Up Vintage 325, 10am Soup Kettle, 5pm	15 Garage Sale 8am- 5pm	16 Garage Sale 8am-2pm
17 MANNA Orders Missions, 8am	18 Food for Greater Elgin, 5pm	19 Soup Kettle, 4:30pm Finance, 7pm	20	21	22	23
24 / 31	25	26 Church Council, 7pm	27	28 Vintage 325, 10am	29	30

SMALL GROUPS / BIBLE STUDIES

SUNDAY @ 10:30am

"We'll Accept You," M3

MONDAY

Walking Bible Study, Parsonage @ 6:30am

WEDNESDAY

Morning Bible Study, S. Elgin Panera @ 6am

THURSDAY

5 Cups of Coffee, U1 @ 7pm
Stitches of Hope, M5 @ 1pm

FRIDAY

5 Cups of Coffee, U1 @ 9:30am

DUNGEON & DRAGONS

Attention! Do you have an adventuring spirit, like solving problems/puzzles, working as a team, and enjoy shared storytelling? Then you might like to join a Dungeons & Dragons (D & D) group. D & D is about players learning to work together, trust each other, and become a team while solving problems, avoiding traps, defeating the baddies, and having fun. Don't know how to play? We'll teach you!

Want to give it a try? See Steve Meyer or email moonwatcher2001@hotmail.com.

The mission of KIDS ABOVE ALL (Formerly ChildServ) is to protect, heal and educate children and families so they can build better lives. "Kids Above All" is also an agent for increased advocacy for equal justice, rights and opportunity for all kids, in every community.

In addition, Kids Above All offers homebased early childhood and daycare programs to address a growing need in communities across the Chicago area. Those services – along with its work in foster care and adoption, housing for teens and formerly homeless young adults, and counseling – help kids, youth and families who are at risk in area counties to have the best life possible.



To give to this month's Mission Links, please drop your donation in the offering basket or mail to the office. Please designate "July Mission Links" in the memo line.

GINGERBREAD BAZAAR

Gingerbread Bazaar is back!!! It will be held on Saturday, October 12 from 9:00am-3:00pm. There are still booths available if you would like to rent one and sell your creations. Contact Shari Weber in the church office or register [here](#), or [download a form](#). Come out in October and support our local artists! Keep watching for more information. If you have any questions you can contact Sherry Severing at 815-985-4702 or by email at ssevering6@gmail.com.



FROM THE DESK OF YOUR PASTOR (cont from page 1)

Connecting within a church family is one of the key factors in feeling welcomed and accepted within a group and we want to be sure we are letting our actions follow our words in this area. This would be a great group to join if building relationships is important to you.

Finally, Kimberly Lynch has chosen to lead the group focusing on helping those in our community and church heal from brokenness by life's circumstances.

This could be a little more difficult as we try to figure out what you all meant by this. We will be asking you to share your thoughts about those broken circumstances so that we can get a clearer picture of what is needed in our community and church.

I encourage you to join one of these groups and help us in our goals as we strive to grow in our own discipleship as well as inviting others to join us along our journey. This truly is an exciting time to be here at Journey of Hope! Our breakthrough prayers are working, and God is opening doors to new opportunities. I hope and pray that we are up for this, I know God is.

While I know these are our three main goals, revealed by your answers to the C.A.T. assessment, there may be other areas where God is calling us to something new. When God instills visions and dreams in your heart, please share them with me or others around you. May we travel this journey together with our Triune God as our guide.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Jarrod

UPDATED HUMAN SERVICES RESOURCE GUIDES AVAILABLE

The office and Welcome Center have updated Human Resource Guides for the Elgin area. This guide is extremely extensive and includes information on shelters, substance abuse, crisis intervention, legal services, health services, food pantries / soup kettles, Veterans assistance and how to contact the City of Elgin for a variety of city questions. It is here for you or someone who is in need of help and direction.

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

PADS MEAL

Sunday, July 3 @ 5pm

Contact Janina Hoffman at 847.717.4318

SOUP KETTLE

Thursday, July 14 @ 5:00pm

Trinity Lutheran Church

Tuesday, July 19 @ 4:30pm at

Zion Lutheran Church

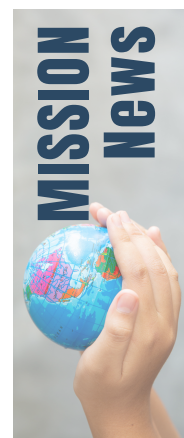
FOOD FOR GREATER ELGIN

Monday, July 18 @ 5:30pm

CRISIS CENTER MEAL

Sunday, July 24 @ 5pm

Contact Janina Hoffman at 847.717.4318



SHOE BOXES

Our July collection will focus on school supplies. Crayons, markers, pencils, pens, highlighters, calculators, index cards, rulers, etc... are all great options. With school just around the corner great deals are sure to be found.

Don't want to shop? Buy a MANNA card and we can do the shopping for you!

MISSION TRIP THANK YOU

Thank you to all those who supported our Spaghetti Dinner, those who served on our behalf at Spirit Lake, ND and those who signed up to be a Prayer Partner for our missionaries. Our outreach to our community and beyond takes a village! Thank you for being part of our Journey of Hope village.



JOURNEY OF HOPE
A UNITED METHODIST COMMUNITY
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