

THE JOURNAL

JOURNEY OF HOPE

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"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope"
Jeremiah 29:11 ESV

FROM THE DESK OF YOUR PASTOR

This is the season of graduations, end of school, confirmation, and other milestones of education. Usually, we turn our focus during this season to dreams of what this life can be, especially for our graduates. Whether it is a time of transitioning into undergrad schools or into the workforce, there is this special time and space where so much is possible. The world is laid out in front of us, and we wonder what we will do with the opportunities that God has provided.

Maybe you have children or grandchildren who are in this position, or maybe it's you that faces this optimistic time. You might even remember a time when you were able to look into your future and think about the many possibilities that you had. I wonder how you felt in those times. Was there a certain amount of fear of the unknown? Or were you excited about what was just around the bend? I know that I had a little bit of both. While I was excited about "beginning" my life, I was also fearful.

I think the fear has its roots in failure. What if I couldn't find a job?

What if I failed when I moved out to my own place? There was so much in my life at that time that was unknown.

We might find ourselves in that place at Journey of Hope. We've been hearing about this adoption merge with Good Shepherd in Bartlett, and we are a little afraid. Some of you might be thinking that everything is really good.

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Membership is growing, Sunday mornings are filling up, and there is an air of excitement all around the building and community. I've even had people ask why would be making these big changes, especially when things are going as well as they are. But we must see that this is just the time that we

(cont on page 2)

WALK & TALK BIBLE STUDY MOVING DAYS

It's easy to get lost in the busyness of everyday life. Carving out some time to spend in nature while sharing The Word can bring us back to where we need to be and leaves us feeling rejuvenated.

We are now walking outside on these beautiful mornings starting in front of the parsonage (2024 Torino Dr), not far from church and we want you to join us!

Starting June 6th, we are moving the day to Tuesday, same time at 7:30am, same place. Come walk a couple slow paced miles and hear God's Word in new ways!

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GARAGE SALE

Dates for this year's Garage Sale are June 9 & 10 and are quickly approaching. We are still in need of items to sell -- household items, games / puzzles, books, holiday decor, sports gear (sorry, no clothing will be accepted)... Do you have somethings laying around your home you wish to donate?

In addition to donated items, we also are looking for volunteers to help organize prior to the event as well as work during the sale. It takes a lot of work and hands to coordinate and carry out this two-day event - can you help? Sign up [here](#). Contact [Laura Mellinger](#) with questions or to arrange drop off / pick up of items.



FROM THE DESK... (cont from page 1)

need to be thinking about multiplication and change in our ministry.

We need to continually re-invent ourselves as we strive to keep the excitement and passion for the mission of Journey of Hope alive. We must look for new ways to reach out into our community and beyond with the love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. How do we do this?

What are your hopes and dreams for ministry at Journey of Hope? If money, volunteers, time, or resources were not an issue, what would you see as ministry opportunities for us here? Do you have hopes and dreams? Have you shared them with anyone?

Let me share a hope, dream, and vision that I believe God is calling us to. In the next 15 years, we will recapture core United Methodist beliefs and practices through spiritual disciplines and faith formation, resulting in the cultural replication of Journey of Hope throughout existing and additional campuses. How does that sound to you? Do you feel like it is attainable, or is that vision just a little too far out there for you to actually think it is possible?

I truly believe that it is possible. I think it is attainable. And I think we will accomplish this goal and vision, quite possibly before the 15-year mark. God is calling us to some really big things and if we will just trust in God's plans and hopes for us, we will accomplish far more than we could ever imagine. After all, that really is our breakthrough prayer, isn't it.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Jarrod

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INTERESTED IN SERVING ON
A TEAM?

Contact Pastor Jarrod or
Team Chair.

JUNE

SUNDAY

Worship
S & FB Live @ 9:15am
Fellowship Time
CR @ 10:15am

TUESDAY

Walking Bible Study
Parsonage @ 7:30am
*Sonrise Room if rain

WEDNESDAY

Panera Bible Study
SE Panera @ 6am
Pathways Worship
CR & FB Live @ 6pm

THURSDAY

Prayer Service
SR & FB Live @ 7am
Coffee w/ the Pastor
SR @ 7:30am
Journey with the Living Word
Zoom, 11am
Stitches of Hope
M5 @ 1pm

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

28	29	30	31 Charge Conf, 7pm	1	2	3 Services - Carolyn VanSlyck Visitation, 11am Celebration of Life, 12pm
4 MANNA Orders PADS, 5pm	5 Merger Mtg, 6:30pm	6 NIC Annual Conf. Care Team, 1pm Trustees, 7pm	7 NIC Annual Conf. Community of Hope, 12:30pm	8 NIC Annual Conf. Soup Kettle, 5pm	9 Garage Sale, 9am-5pm	10 Garage Sale, 9am-2pm
11	12	13 SPRC Mtg, 7pm	14	15	16	17
18 Manna Orders Missions Mtg, 8am	19 Food for Greater Elgin, 5pm	20 Soup Kettle, 4:30pm Finance Mtg, 7pm	21 Services - Ray Sievert Celebration of Life, 11am	22	23	24
25 Church Conf. TBA Creative Journey, 3pm Crisis Center Meal, 5pm	26 Book Club, 10:30am	27	28	29	30	1

SMALL GROUPS / BIBLE STUDIES

If you are looking for a way to get connected and grow in your faith in the new year, consider joining one of our small group opportunities through out the week.

SUNDAY

"We'll Accept You", M3 @ 10:30am

"Current Events", M5 @ 10:30am (thru 6/11)

TUESDAY

Walking Bible Study, Parsonage @ 7:30am

WEDNESDAY

Morning Bible Study, S. Elgin Panera Bread @ 6am

THURSDAY

Journey with the Living Word, Zoom @ 11am

Stitches of Hope, M5 @ 1pm

Disciple Bible Study, U1 @ 7pm



Our June Mission Links will support United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) - the official short-term volunteer sending agency of the United Methodist Church. The North Central Jurisdiction office is charged with resourcing individuals, teams, leaders and UMVIM projects within this jurisdiction. The office maintains the National Project List, keeps a list of future teams, sends out e-newsletters and assists in Emergency Response Training (ERT) and VIM leader training.

To contribute to Mission Links, simply drop your donation into the offering basket on Sunday during worship or mail check to the office. Please designate checks "Mission Links". You may also use our online giving platform; please select "Mission Links" fund.

BOOK CLUB!

Join us for our second Book Club meeting on Monday, June 26th at 10:30am in the upstairs conference room, U1. We will be reading and discussing Paula McLean's historical fiction novel "The Paris Wife" about Ernest Hemingway's marriage to his first wife, Hadley Richardson.

Reading is better together and hope to see many of you there! Questions? Contact Mary VanSlyck.

NOT THE LAST STRAW...

You may have noticed a temporary pile of dirt in the south parking lot a few weeks ago, and lots of straw that is still around that new parking lot. When the new parking lot was installed last fall, the lawn surrounding the parking lot was badly damaged and required lots of repair. After removing the clay and rock left by the pavers, we replaced it with topsoil to provide a good bed upon which to plant new grass. The grass seed has to be kept damp with a combination of frequent watering and having a covering layer of straw. That project is now in the start of its watering phase.

This isn't the best time of year to start grass, fall is a much better time. But the reality of our situation is that you will in fact be seeing a lot more straw this fall. That is because when we finish grading the hill on the north side of our north parking lot, we will be planting it with grass and covering it with a lot of straw. Since we had that project lined up for the fall, we had to move ahead with the south lot lawn repair in the late spring, to get that project out of the way.

The hill on the north side of the north parking lot used to be so steep and irregular, that it could not be mowed. As a result, we had a very unsightly mess of volunteer trees, vines and weeds. With regrading, that hill will be easy to mow, and to keep under control. Our landscaper recommended that we mow that hill for a few years, to eliminate all volunteer plant growth, and then landscape it to improve the view of our church. Whatever we plant there will be easy to maintain and will look good for years to come.



CREATIVE JOURNEY

Thank you to Shari Weber for teaching our May Creative Journey. We had fun creating Frosted Jar Lanterns.



Come join us on Sunday, June 25 at 3pm for a time of creativity and fun; bring a friend or two! No experience is necessary. ALL are welcome! (Craft to be announced at a later date.)

Are you a crafty person and would like to teach a class? Call / text Sherry Severing at 815-985-4702 or email at ssevering6@gmail.com.

SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP TIME

Our Fellowship Time each week is a time when coffee, tea, and snacks are served following worship. This is a wonderful time when we can relax together, catch up, and meet new people. It's also a great time for families to connect. And our congregation sure seems to enjoy this special hour!

We are asking you to lend a helping hand and host a Sunday Fellowship Time. Beverages are always prepared so all you need to do is sign up to bring food and clean up. Snacks can be as easy as sweet treats, fruits / veggies, cheese and crackers. The sign-up sheet is on the food table so sign up before filling your plate. Guidance will be provided.

This small gesture will bring you and your family closer to the church and the people you attend church with!

MISSION NEWS



SHOE BOXES FOR SPIRIT LAKE

We will be collecting school supplies in June for our Shoe Box project. If you do not feel like shopping consider purchasing a gift card through Manna and let us do the shopping for you!

BARTLETT 4TH OF JULY FEST

Each summer, Good Shepherd UMC in Bartlett hosts a booth at the Bartlett 4th of July Fest and this year we will be lending a hand! The event runs from June 30-July 4th and there are many opportunities to work the booth and/or make donations of drinks which will be sold at their booth. You can sign up [here](#).

SAVE THE DATE!

Our annual Super Service Saturday returns on September 9th from 9am-4pm. Serving opportunities include packing shoe boxes for Spirit Lake, collecting food for the Interfaith Food Pantry and a field trip to Feed My Starving Children. Lunch will be provided by your Mission Team. Register [here](#). Registration is not required but appreciated to help plan lunch.

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

PADS MEAL

Sunday, June 4 @ 5pm
Contact Janina Hoffman at 847.894.8651

SOUP KETTLE

Thursday, June 8 @ 5pm
Trinity Lutheran Church

Tuesday, June 20 @ 4:30pm
Zion Lutheran Church

FOOD FOR GREATER ELGIN

Monday, June 19 @ 5pm

CRISIS CENTER MEAL

Sunday, June 25 @ 5pm
Contact Janina Hoffman at 847.894.8651



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