

Hope United Methodist Church

3166 197th Street E

Faribault, MN 55021

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Southern Baptist at the Race Track

Did you hear about the about the Southern Baptist who was in the habit of sneaking to the race track to bet on the horses?

One day he was losing badly when he saw a priest step onto the track, walk up to line-up and bless one of the horses on the forehead. The horse was a long shot, but the Southern Baptist thought, "With the priest's blessing, surely this horse will win." He placed a small bet and, sure enough, the horse came in first. At the next race, the priest stepped onto the track and blessed another horse's forehead. Even though this horse was also a long shot, the Southern Baptist was a little bolder this time and placed a larger bet on that horse. Again, it won.

A third time, the priest stepped onto the track and blessed a horse on the forehead. Like the others, this horse was also a long shot. The Southern Baptist placed an even larger bet this time and, sure enough the horse won.

This pattern continued throughout the day with the priest blessing the forehead of a long shot horse, the Southern Baptist placing larger and larger bets and the horse always winning.

At the last race of the day, the Southern Baptist thought, "I have got to go for broke here." With great anticipation, he watched as the priest stepped onto the field one more time, walked up to the line-up and blessed the forehead, eyes, ears and hooves of one of the horses. The Southern Baptist ran to the ticket counter and bet all he had on that horse.

The horse came in dead last!

As he was walking out, he saw the priest. Walking up to him, he demanded, "What happened? All day long you blessed horses and they won, even though they were long shots. Then at the last race you blessed a horse, I bet everything and the horse lost."

"That's the problem with you Protestants," said the priest. "You can't tell the difference between a simple blessing and the Last Rites."



HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Worship: Sunday 10:30 Sunday School 10:45

John C. Purdy, has written a book entitled *Returning God's Call: The Challenge of Christian Living*. In it, Purdy suggests that we need a new metaphor for the Christian life. He points out the inadequacy of the old metaphors such as "a soldier in God's army," "a scholar in the school of Christ," "a traveler a long the Christian way," "a citizen of the commonwealth;" "and a member of Christ's body." Each of these metaphors has served us well in the past, Purdy says, but they are not as useful for today. The metaphor Purdy recommends with much vitality is "Hearers of the Call." His rationale is that this would be the image of one who has heard, and keeps hearing, a persistent summons to belief and action. "Hearers of the Call!" Whether we agree with Purdy or not, that reality is the key to our faithfulness as disciples.

He goes on to describe how, as a child, he would be outside playing hide and seek with his friends. Inevitably, his front door would open and his mother's voice would call, "John, time to come in!"

But Purdy said, "I would go on with hide and seek as though nothing had happened. And to anybody passing by, I looked no different from my playmates." "But", as Purdy continued, "I was different. I had been called - in; everything was changed. Every thing can change when we become hearers and respond to the call. Together, we each hear our own call we can move and be a community for change and of change. Gathering to share the story of the call is crucial for us all.

A church member who had been devoutly active for many years suddenly was absent. One cold winter evening the pastor knocked at his door. Actually, the pastor and the church member had been long-time good friends.

As they watched the wood burn in the fireplace, the minister mentioned the parishioner's absence from church. The man candidly confessed that he had decided he was just as well off without the church as with it. The minister didn't say a word. He took the tongs from the rack, reached into the fire, pulled out a flaming ember, and laid it down by itself on the hearth. He still said nothing.

Both men sat in silence and watched the glowing ember lose its glow and turn slowly into a crusty, black lump. After some moments of thoughtful silence, the man turned to his pastor and said, "I get the message, my friend, I see what you mean; I'll be back next Sunday." And he was.

Pastor Houck



Praise Him Praise Him

A few years ago, excellent was the hot word among teenagers. A really great experience was not good, it was “excellent!” Many of us remember when schoolteachers marked papers with grades of “good,” “very good,” and “excellent.” There was nothing wrong with a “good” paper. But the “excellent” one went beyond expectations. It excelled.

In this hymn, Fanny Crosby urges us to praise God for His ‘excellent’ greatness. Consider who or what, besides God, is the greatest thing in you life? Your family? Your home? Your friends? Your softball team? These may be good, even very good,

but God is greater. He excels above all other aspects of our lives. His greatness exceeds our ability to praise Him.

It’s hard to find a hymn richer in praise and joy. Jesus is hailed as Rock, Redeemer, Prophet, Priest and King. But just when we begin to think He’s so “excellent” that he’s out of reach, we see Him as a Shepherd, carrying His little ones in His arms.

Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the

throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they sang “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!” Revelations 5:11-12.

Taken from One Year Book of Hymns.



...we see Him as a Shepherd, carrying His little ones in His arms.

Our Youth

Preschool through 6th grade starts September 9th after Children's Moments during church. Discussions, crafts, and music are based on the Lectionary, and Children's Moments, concentrating on stories and people of the Bible. Class will begin with music each week.

"Sunday schoolers" requested to make a banner and to paint. Judy will lead the banner project, Nancy and Betty, the painting. Watch for upcoming dates.

The Youth Group offered to lead the Christmas program, tentatively scheduled for December 16th. Practices are during class time after Thanksgiving.

Seventh grade and older interested in confirmation, please contact Pastor Dana for details.

Third graders, please contact Nancy to set a date to receive your Bible.

A visit to Carolyn Passer at St. Lucas is planned. Contact Nancy if we can visit others during nice weather.

Check the calendar and “ideas.” If you would like to share a story, craft, or song, contact Nancy or write it on the sheet.

Peace,
Nancy

Hope's Happenings

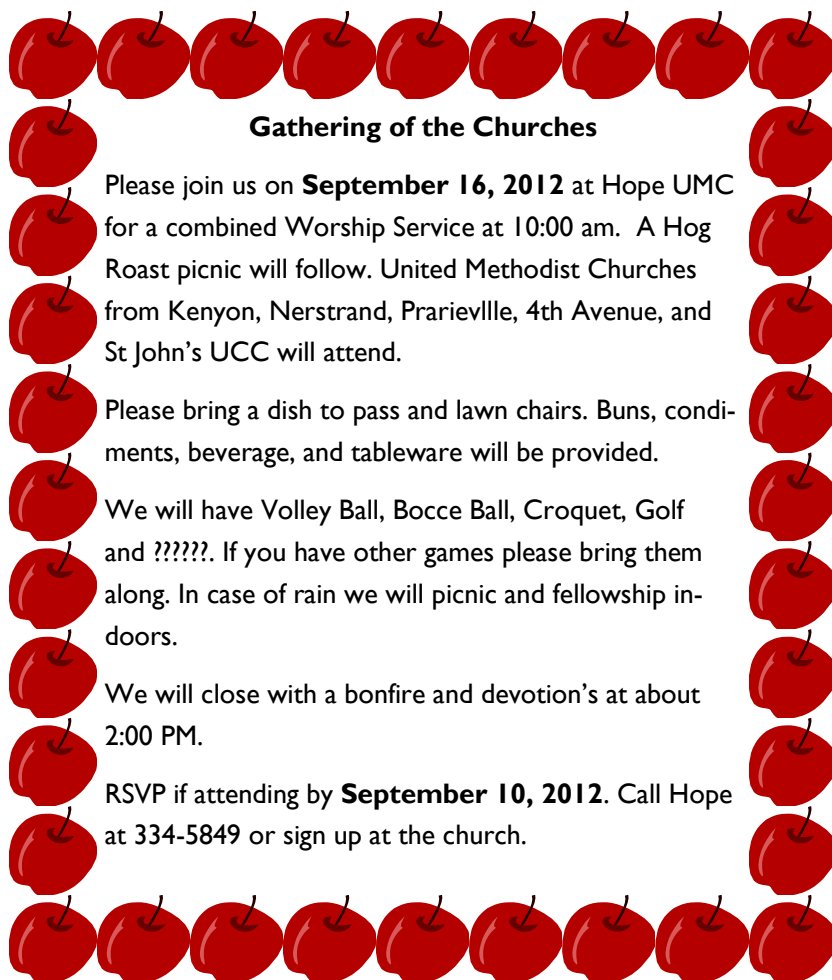
All women are invited to the August CWC, a Stonecroft Ministry, on September 11th at the Moose Lodge at 2N. Special speaker is Jan Ostrout, "Peace in Any Circumstance." Our Special Feature is Ann Gettis, "Jeremiah's Hope" Creating Safe & Caring Schools and Communities. For reservations call: 507-334-7481, 507-645-7008 or 507-789-5396.



The mission of Stonecroft Ministries is to impact women and their communities with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

"The Church Ladies Present-" Nifty Knitter

On Saturday September 29, 2012 from 10 AM-12N, at Hope UMC, Nancy DeCoux will teach a class using the Nifty Knitter. The project will be a stocking cap. This is open to the community. You will need a Nifty Knitter and 1 skein of 4 ply yarn. Call Nancy DeCoux at 334-7309 to register. There is no cost,



Gathering of the Churches

Please join us on **September 16, 2012** at Hope UMC for a combined Worship Service at 10:00 am. A Hog Roast picnic will follow. United Methodist Churches from Kenyon, Nerstrand, Prarieville, 4th Avenue, and St John's UCC will attend.

Please bring a dish to pass and lawn chairs. Buns, condiments, beverage, and tableware will be provided.

We will have Volley Ball, Bocce Ball, Croquet, Golf and ??????. If you have other games please bring them along. In case of rain we will picnic and fellowship indoors.

We will close with a bonfire and devotion's at about 2:00 PM.

RSVP if attending by **September 10, 2012**. Call Hope at 334-5849 or sign up at the church.

Annual Crop Walk

Founded in 1946, Church World Service is a cooperative ministry of 37 Christian communions working together to eradicate hunger and poverty and promote peace and justice among the world's most vulnerable people.

Within the United States, CWS assists communities in responding to local hunger and disasters, resettles refugees, promotes fair national and international policies, provides educational resources, and offers opportunities to join a people-to-people network of local and global caring through participation in CROP Hunger Walks, the [Blankets+ Program](#), and the [CWS Kits Program](#).

Let's make this a family time on Sat. Sept. 29th with Hope Church families; all mom's, dad's, children, grandparents, cousins, aunts and uncles are all welcome to fight world hunger by joining our Faribault area CROP walkers.

Faribault's 22nd annual CROP Walk will be held on Saturday, September 29th. Registration will be at 8:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of Our Merciful Savior and the WALK will start at 9:00. Walker envelopes are available at church; and for those who have questions or would like to sponsor walkers, please call Mary & Mel Sanborn at 334-6541.



"Skin Deep" Religion

These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Mark 7:6b (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Mark 7:1-8



X Z X E L D E R S B G K N L J
 G R G N G I L O O M I J C M Q
 U O I H T R A D I T I O N U T
 N H I M H O L I P S F O O D N
 C Z O F K E T T L E S V H D K
 L W V S T E A Y K C G S N L V
 E O O K S P Y R S O D N J F D
 A X C R L M B R T N L L T U X
 N M P O S C E M A S Z P M A E
 P H Z B E H U H E Q E X R V A
 H Y P O C R I T E S V I N R T
 D H W T H Y C P H W W D O W I
 Z Z I K R U L E S H A N G T N
 I P F U L V H A P D O S N H G
 I Q F V Y F I G U H T T H B G

HYPOCRITES	RULES	TRADITION	KETTLES	EATING
PITCHERS	HEARTS	UNCLEAN	WASH	ELDERS
LIPS	FOOD	HANDS	WORSHIP	HONOR

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“The Church Ladies Present”-Beginning Quilting.

On Saturday’s in October from 9-3 pm @ Hope UMC Nancy Sommers and Sue Rassbach will teach a beginner quilting class. This is open to the community. The only cost will be for materials. The project will be a table runner/wall hanging called Christmas Apple. If interested call Carolyn Hanson at 334-7481 for further details and a list of materials.

- Rice County Food Shelf “Food of the month”
- September-Mashed Potato Flakes
- October—Canned fruit and fruit



UMW will meet at Mary Sanborn’s on Saturday, September 9, 2012 @ 9:30. All women of Hope UMC are members of UMW and invited to attend.

Kid's Coloring Page



"God hears my prayers."