

KEEPING UP WITH HOPE PRESBYTERIAN

October 2025

From the Pastor's Desk . . .

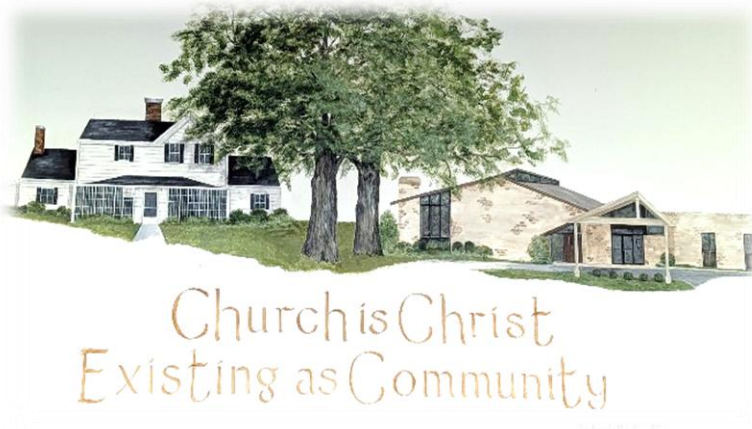
¹² Fight the good fight for the true faith. Hold tightly to the eternal life to which God has called you, which you have declared so well before many witnesses. (1 Timothy 6:12 NLT)

A call to action for believers to "Fight the good fight of faith" and actively "take hold of the eternal life" they were promised and publicly affirmed through their confession of

Christ. This "fight" refers to actively pursuing a godly life, battling against worldly temptations, fleshly desires, and spiritual opposition, and persevering in faith even when difficult.

As we plan to celebrate the life of the church, let us remember those who are sick or shut-in. I called, visited or attempted to communicate with the following month: Nelson De Silva, Meg Bourdouris and Family, Ellen Hampson, Doug Houston & Family, Randel Little, Patti Smith, Max Loiacono & Family, Deb Ness, and Wayne & Vickie Pretzer. Continue to pray and reach out to each of them.

As we close out September and enter October we were blessed to see a lot of visitors inside the building. 24 vendors shared our space on Saturday, September 20th and addressed the Health and Wellness Expo, which was well received by the community. Saturday, September 27th we hosted the Systemic Racism event with over 40 participants led by Dr. Joyce Perry and Jennifer Parker Wrzeszcz from the Chicago Presbytery CARE program. I am happy that Bethel New Life celebrated 10 years of service in our building and hosted several guests' choirs and soloists for a music workshop and a major celebration. We closed the month out with our Bingo Blast, which was a lot of fun. I strongly encourage you to consider coming to the one on Friday, October 24th.



I have been praying about the situation between Hope and Bethel and asking God for wisdom as we work to restore the churches in a loving relationship. As the pastor, I am moved by the desire to mend and the desire to heal the brokenness in the body of Christ. Grateful to members like Janet Kristensen, Sheri Clubb and Glenn Stith who were willing to work on this issue.

I believe it was Jan who cited Matthew 18 as a foundational passage for the Elders and Sheri and Glenn who were willing to craft the wording for the communication. I pray that the two churches will mend and bring others to Christ through this example.

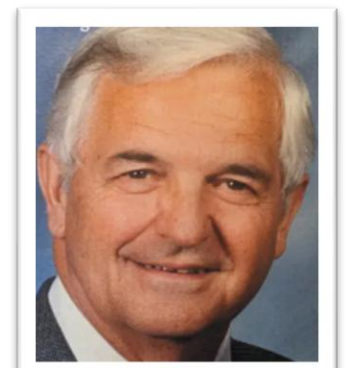
Hope Presbyterian Church will be celebrating 55 years of existence and I am pleased to serve as their pastor as they reach this milestone. The many memories and expressions are flowing into the office. I have read some and they are touching as well as humorous. Looking forward to preparing the worship service and the commemorative book. If you have not forwarded a memory, please try to send something. Your presence needs to be felt through this process because you have stood strong with this community of believers. Here are the names and tenure for each spiritual leader for Hope:

Pastors of Hope Presbyterian Church

- (1) Heinrich B. Eiler: 9/1/1969 through 8/27/1987**
- (2) J. Wayland McGlathery (interim): 10/1/1987 through 5/31/1989**
- (3) Lee R. Van Ham: 10/8/1989 through 7/31/1999**
- (4) Kenneth W. Eimer (interim): 8/30/1999 through 11/10/2000**
- (5) Thomas W. Young: 12/1/2000 through 12/31/2004**
- (6) Nancy J. Farrell (interim): 4/15/2005 through 11/21/2007**
- (7) Warren C. Wiggins (interim): 11/26/2007 through 7/31/2008**
- (8) Kevin Edward Holley: 8/4/2008 through 9/30/2014**
- (9) Jason L. Moses: 5/4/2017 through 8/21/2022 [designated pastor 5/4/2015 through 5/4/2017]**
- (10) Tassie Green (bridge pastor): 3/5/2023 through 6/30/2023**
- (11) Janet Tuma (part-time bridge pastor): 7/1/2023 through 1/31/2024**
- (12) R. Keith Beauchamp (associate pastor): 7/1/2023 through 1/31/2024; (full-time stated supply pastor: 2/1/2024 through present)**

Note: I did not include Robert Garrard who was our full-time supply pastor from October 1996 through 5/31/1997 during Lee Van Ham's medical leave.

I take time to thank God for the privilege to be called to serve this awesome congregation. I follow behind great men and women who honored the pulpit with sermons, songs, service and desires to see this congregation worship God and live out their commitment to their respective faith. While in the Worship, Music and Arts Committee I learned that Pastor Eiler used to share Chinese Hymns with the congregation. Pastor Eiler's favorite hymn was entitled, *May the God of Hope Go with Us or Song of Hope*.



Rev. Dr. Heinrich B. Eiler
February 27, 1929 - April 5, 2023

The lyrics simply stated, “May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race. Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all; working for a world that’s new, faithful when we hear Christ’s call.” The song lyrics come from Romans 15:13 which states, ¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Pastor Eiler was trying to inspire Hope with this song to encourage members to go beyond these walls to overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Humbly Submitted by,

R. Beauchamp

Dr. R. Keith Beauchamp, Pastor

Hope’s Welcoming Statement

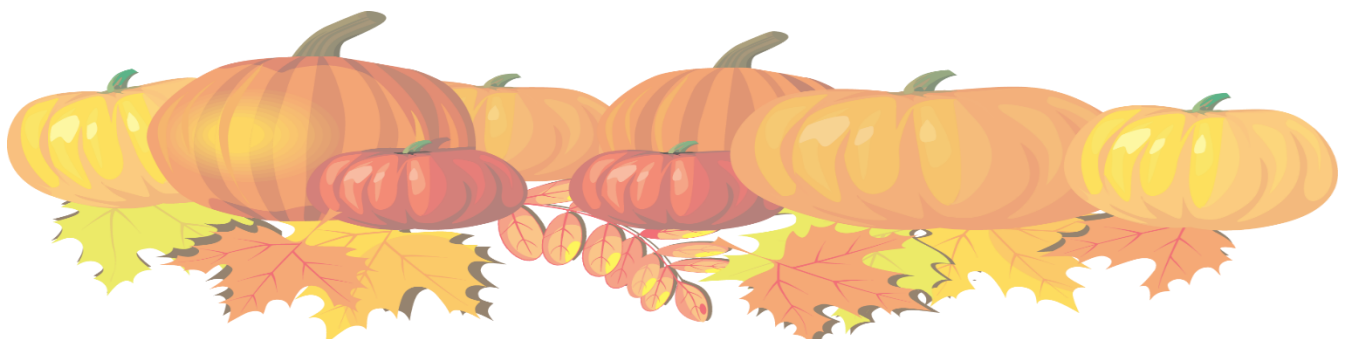
Hope strives to be a safe haven for God’s unconditional love. Every person is invited and encouraged to participate in all Hope’s activities and roles, including membership and leadership. In this world most human conflict and separation are caused by our differences, like race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, economic, status political positions, and more. Hope embraces diversity and welcomes all who come through our doors, without exceptions.

Hope’s Mission Statement

The community of Hope exists to let people know they matter to God; by showing them they matter to us, in order that they may share God’s love with others.

Hope’s Vision Statement

We strive to be a beacon of Hope, building a community rooted in Christ’s love and showing God’s love to those searching for community.



CLERK OF SESSION

Greetings from your Session!

Your session gathered on September 15 for a stated session meeting moderated by Rev. Ron Beauchamp. Since I was absent for three months from May through July, the topics listed are from the last four session meetings. I would also like to thank all of you who prayed for my recovery from a serious heart episode. Your thoughts and prayers worked, and I am back to help our church as best as I can.

Below are some of the highlights of the meetings in May, June, August and September:

- The Building & Grounds Committee has restored parking permission for Wheaton-Warrenville South High School students starting in August. But this time, we will be charging a fee for each applicant and have specific, numbered parking spaces for each to use for parking their cars during school hours.
- Plans continue to be finalized by both the Worship, Music & Arts Committee and the Pastoral Care Committee for celebrating Hope's 55th anniversary during worship on October 12.
- Session was presented with the new design and features of Hope's greatly improved website.
- Session discussed and accepted the financial audit report for Hope performed by Jay Lechnick.
- Session approved a new volunteering opportunity. On the third Tuesday of each month from 3:00pm to 5:00pm, starting in September, six volunteers will work at the People's Resource Center (PRC) to help sort and stock donated clothing.
- The starting time of the monthly stated meeting for session was changed from 7:00pm to 3:00pm. Also, to avoid conflict with the new volunteer opportunity at the PRC, the day of the meeting was moved from the third Tuesday to the third Monday of the month.

- The Personnel Committee gathered input from all elders in preparing a 12-month performance evaluation for Pastor Ron. A complete summary of the review was first discussed by the Personnel Committee, then sent to Session for further review.
- In September, we welcomed a guest member, Jan Kristensen, to “Speaking with Session”. Jan encouraged Session to have a conversation with Bethel New Life Church to improve the relationship between the two churches and to better communicate with each other when scheduling events so that each church can participate in events held by both churches. The Worship Music & Arts Committee will initiate the conversation as we plan for a joint World Communion service on October 5.
- As we approach the end of the year, each committee has submitted their estimated budget of expenses for 2026. At present, the Finance Committee projects that we will have an estimated deficit next year of about \$11,000. But we expect that number to be revised many times in the next few months. Session approved the start of our 2026 stewardship drive during Sunday worship on October 19.

As always, you are invited to share any thoughts or concerns you have with either an individual elder or with the entire session. If you would like to present an idea to the session at our meeting as Jan Kristensen did in September, please contact Pastor Ron or me to be scheduled during the “Speaking with Session” portion of the meeting. The next stated meeting will be on Monday, October 20 at 3:00 pm.

Also, keep in mind that October is Pastor Appreciation Month. Stay tuned for more on this later.

With blessings,
Bill Borst, Clerk of Session



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Bingo Blast!

Christian Ed's Bingo Committee has recently hosted two Bingo Blast games. It was a great time of fellowship...plenty of laughs, good snacks and some terrific prizes. Glenn Stith served as our Bingo Caller and his Bingo jokes rolled out almost as fast as the numbers!

Bingo Blast

Friday October 24, at 10:30-11:30 am

There is no cost, but a free will offering is available. Come join the fun and invite your family and friends.



A Huge Thank You from the Christian Ed Committee



Christian Ed wants to say thanks to everyone who brought their buckets, rags, Windex, squeegees, vacuums and lots of elbow grease to do a deep clean on Hope's main floor in preparation for the Health & Wellness Expo...and also to those who helped set up tables and move chairs in the sanctuary. We could not have done all of this without your help!



It's been several years since we've had a "Fun in the Sun" work day, so the cobwebs and the dust were definitely noticeable....and the main floor restrooms were in dire need of a deep clean! A special shout out to Sheri Clubb, John Dalby, Dave and Jan Donaldson, Jim Gats, Doris Nicodemis, Marla Parent, Tom Schmidt, Glenn Stith, Claudia Taylor, Jim Vroman, and Roy Wolski who joined in with the members of Christian Ed to help make Hope sparkle!

With gratitude,
Carol Gats, Pam Dalby, Anna Lloyd, Jan Realie, Susan Vroman,
Mike Wolfe, Debbie Wolski



Health and Wellness Expo

Hope hosted our first Health and Wellness Expo on Saturday, September 20th. Twenty-four organizations offering a variety of services spent the morning visiting with 32 members of Hope and the surrounding community. There were a wide range of services represented:

Advocate Health Advisors

American Foundation of Suicide Prevention

Angel's Homecare

Bethel New Life Church

CapTel Captioned Telephone

Chicago Death Doula

Comfort Keepers

DuPage Community Services

DuPage County

Dupage Health Coalition

ESSE Adult Day Services

Hope Church

Hopeful Beginnings

Illinois Comptroller's Office

Illinois State Treasurer

Inspire Consulting Service

Keller Williams/Kim Moustis

National Alliance on Mental Health

Oak Street Health

Oasis Senior Advisors

Regional Transportation Authority

Safe Families for Children

Wheaton Sports Center

Wyndemere

Christian Ed would like to thank Jaquetta for keeping track of the vendor registration forms, creating an awesome poster and sign-in sheets for the Expo visitors. Thanks, also to everyone who brought tables to Hope. A huge thank you to everyone who helped to set up tables and chairs in the sanctuary on Friday and clean up at the end of the program. It was an interesting and informative day for everyone!



COMMUNICATIONS

Subsplash operations document has been completed. I strongly encourage members to please view the web site and discover the wonderful information used to attract guests and new members. Next step is the training of Rosie Buchalski to become the web manager. The committee is charged with creating community awareness through better illumination of the marquee sign for evenings. Thanks to the committee, which has been doing an excellent job of communicating events via the marquee, Facebook, Wheaton Patch and Daily Herald.

Bob Strutzel
Communications Chair



October

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE

FINANCE REPORT

THIRD QUARTER 2025 FINANCE REPORT

FINANCIAL STATUS

Through September, Hope's income for the year exceeds its expenditures by about \$7500. Pledge receipts are close to budget, while loose offerings are about \$7000 below budget. Fortunately, we have received almost \$6000 in student parking. It is too early to forecast a surplus for year end, however, as we have some significant expenses for insurance, mission giving and carpet shampooing scheduled for the fourth quarter.

One of our biggest financial needs is money for capital improvements, which are outside of our operational budget. For example, we need to replace the wood flooring of our Gathering Room porch, we can't currently use either of our fireplaces, and we need to build funds to eventually replace our parking lot. Special donations toward any such items will be very helpful and very much appreciated. Some people are already donating "birthday bucks" for our capital fund by donating their age in dollars every year.

STEWARDSHIP DRIVE

During the week of October 12, a stewardship letter will be emailed to Hoppers to explain Hope's budget needs for 2026 and to ask for your support. After Sunday worship on October 19, I will host an informational meeting to review the proposed budget and address any questions. Additional copies of the stewardship information, plus pledge cards, will be given out at that meeting. Pledge cards will be mailed to those who are unable to attend the meeting. We will be asking people to return pledge cards by November 16 to enable Session to complete its financial planning for next year.

Submitted by Glenn Stith, Finance Committee Chair

PASTORAL PARTNERS

This month the committee is asking for prayers for the membership of the church. Several congregants have fallen and remain in care. The committee is looking for new people who would like to be a part of this ministry as we consider others.

We are a church that believes and supports the Matthew 25 mission which states, **35** For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, **36** I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' **37** "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? **38** When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? **39** When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' **40** "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

If you are interested in serving, please contact Betsy DiVita
at betsyd3302@comcast.net.

Please be sure to save the date of Sunday, October 12, to celebrate Hope Presbyterian Church's anniversary. Hope was founded 55 years ago, and we are honored to still have many of those founding members as active members of the congregation.

We will have a reception with cake in the gathering room after service. There have been some unexpected health challenges, and a major lifestyle change for some of our members. Thank you to those who stepped up to either help and also pray and give encouragement to those in special situations.

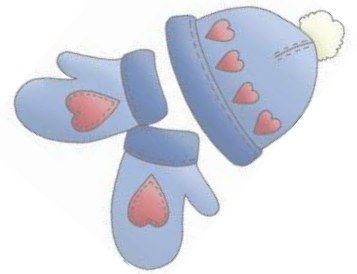
Humbly Submitted, Betsy DiVita, Chair



RELATING BEYOND HOPE

Hat, Mitten, Glove, and Coat Drive

In October and early November Hope Wheaton will once again be collecting new hats, mittens, gloves, and children's coats for Hope Chicago and the PRC Clothes Closet. The winter clothing for Hope Chicago will be donated to the Anna Langford Elementary School which is a K-8 school in their neighborhood. Please place your donations in the coat closet closest to the sanctuary or place them in the PRC shopping cart. In mid-November the winter gear will be delivered by the Relating Beyond Hope Committee to Hope Chicago and the PRC. Thank you for helping to keep kids warm this winter.



Little Red Truck Ministry

The Little Red Truck returns to Hope's parking lot Saturday, October 4 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. We will be collecting personal care items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, bar soap, and deodorant. An inexpensive place to shop for these items is the Dollar Tree on Naperville Rd in Wheaton. As always, canned goods and diapers are always welcome. If you cannot come on Saturday, please place donations in the PRC shopping cart. Thank you in advance for your donations. These are items that the food pantry does not usually provide for their clients, so they are very appreciated.



June
2025

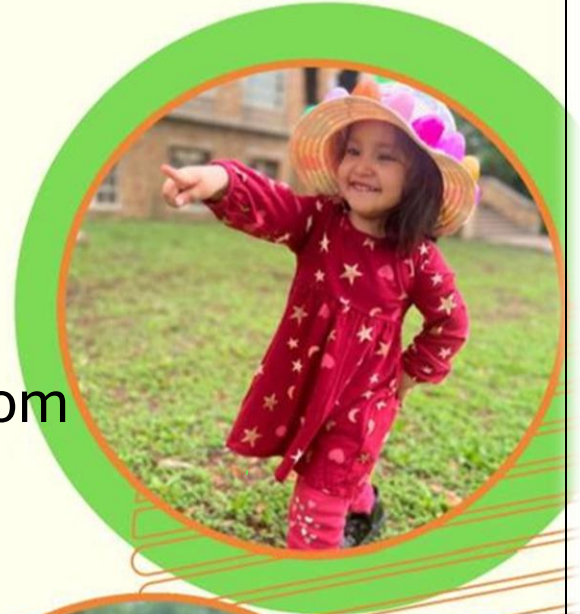
Diego Román & Family

Spring Report/Summer

Brite Divinity School at Texas Christian University

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Fort Worth, TX 76109.

Email diego.roman.comp@gmail.com



Phone

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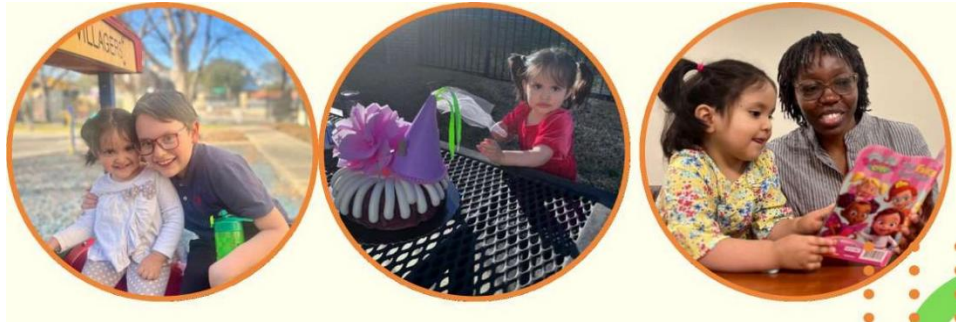


Dear brothers and sisters,



We are happy to share with you that God has blessed us greatly during our time in Texas. We have lacked for nothing, and divine provision has come at the right time. continue to enjoy Brite Divinity. During the spring and summer semesters I took an advanced Greek course, a course in Jewish women's biblical interpretation, a Latino/a biblical interpretation, and a course in virtue and liberation ethics in the books of Amos and Proverbs. The courses were helpful and interesting and made me think

deeply about the Bible. This summer I must complete my German studies to take an exam in September.



I still haven't found a job, but I have had the opportunity to preach a few times. Esther is interested in enrolling for a master's degree at TCU, but they're not issuing visas to international students this year. We hope this can be resolved soon, so that if she's accepted, we can finish together.

The Afolabi's have become good friends of the family. Bernabé is still in school and was able to make a good friend. Unfortunately, as has happened every year, he had to leave with his family for Florida. Esteban will start classes at the same school this fall.

Last semester, a work for trombone and electronics titled 'Un Chilango en Escondido,' which I wrote while at Westminster Seminary in California, was performed by a TCI-J student. I plan to record it this fall. Additionally, I worked the whole year and was able to finish a mini opera based on the text of Habakkuk. God willing, it will be performed in Puebla, Mexico this summer.



INTRODUCTION TO SYSTEMIC RACISM WORKSHOP 2025

What we Believe...

"We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community."



excerpt from
A Brief Statement of Faith



What is a POWER ANALYSIS?

A framework to examine:

- (1) how power is arranged,
- (2) where power resides,
- (3) the relationships that result, and
- (4) the role we each play.

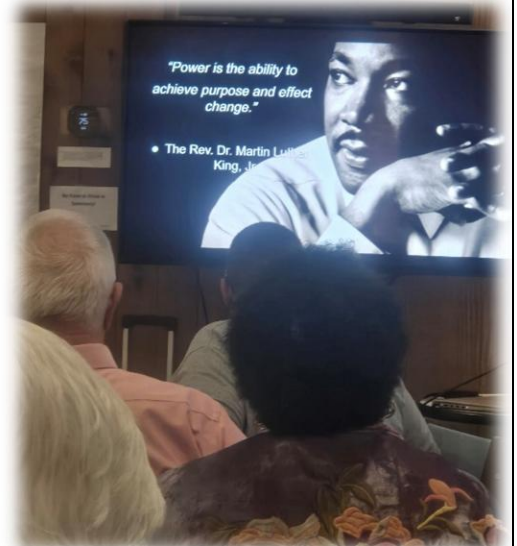


Courageous Conversations Covenant

1. Affirm Inherent Worth & Value of all people
2. Listen to Understand
3. Take Responsibility
4. Make Room for Diverse Voices
5. Embrace Ambiguity
6. Preserve the Integrity of Stories
7. Take Risks

Digging Deeper Into The Center

1 Groups of people who occupy it...	2 They are presumed to be...	3 Distractions are used to justify
- Straight - Cisgender - White "Able-bodied" - Neurotypical - Christian - Lower, Middle, and Upper Class - Educated - Married	"Law Abiding" "Civilized" - Employed & Professional "Healthy" - Hard Working! - Entrepreneurial "Rational" & "Objective" "Self-sufficient"	- Economic advantage - Control/hoarding of resources - Disproportionate opportunities for advancement - Leadership ladders - Policing tactics - Gentrification



WORSHIP, MUSIC & ARTS COMMITTEE

OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE

After a rainy Saturday and Saturday night, the clouds broke, and we were able to have our outdoor worship service. It truly was a perfect, beautiful day to worship God outdoors! A big thank you to Jay Lechnick for his help in setting up the sound equipment. Also, thank you to the WMA members and their spouses for setting up chairs and the worship area for our service.



Outdoor Worship Service

USHERS NEEDED

Each Sunday morning, we are greeted by two Hopers with a smile on their faces. They meet us at the front door and at the sanctuary door and give us our bulletins. They also hand us the microphone for Prayers of the People and collect the offering. It really is a very easy job. Suzan Stith, who organizes and trains the ushers, is looking for one or two more ushers. If you would like to join this friendly team, please contact Suzan at 630-306-6757. We could really use your help.

TABLETOPS

Carlson Paint and Glass delivered our new polycarbonate tabletops and took the old glass ones away. What a difference these new tabletops make! They are crystal clear and much lighter to lift. Thank you for all of your donations.



GRAND PIANO COVER

Our grand piano cover was in dire need of being replaced. Since we had money left over from the tabletop donations, the WMA Committee decided to use these funds to purchase a new grand piano cover. It is waterproof and will protect the piano from any water leaks. By the time you read the October newsletter, the new cover will have arrived and will be protecting our dear piano. Thank you!

IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday, October 12 - Happy 55 years of Hope gathering to worship God! We will have a special worship service to honor the 6 pastors who have served Hope. Immediately following the worship service, we will continue the celebration in the Gathering Room.

Sunday, November 16 - After worship service we will gather in Fellowship Hall to make Chrismon ornaments for our Christmas tree. All materials will be provided. If you cannot join us, you will be able to take materials with you to make at home. Refreshments will be provided by the Worship, Music and Arts Committee.

Saturday, December 6 – Hanging of the Greens Please save this Saturday afternoon to help decorate Hope and the Christmas tree for the season of Advent and Christmas. More information will follow in the November newsletter.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheri Clubb, chair of Worship, Music and Arts Committee





Happy
Fall



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women's Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting – 10:30 each Tuesday in the Gathering Room.

Prayer and Bible Study – Every Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Gathering Room.

RELICS—Retired men are meeting for lunch and conversation at noon on Monday **October 6th & 20th** at Warrenville Cafe at 2 S. 505 Illinois Rt. 59 in Warrenville.

Oct 12th HOPE'S 55TH ANNIVERSARY - Please send a memory of Hope to the church office by September 14th. Our hope is to have 55 memories for 55 years. These will be compiled into a booklet to share at the celebration immediately following service in the Gathering Room.

BINGO! Oct 24th here at Hope in the gathering room from 10:30a-11:30a. Come out and join us for fun and fellowship.



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Please save this Saturday afternoon to help decorate Hope and the Christmas tree for the season of Advent and Christmas. More information will follow in the November newsletter.

***Congregants, please note that if you are not able to be at Hope on Sundays and would like a Weekly Bulletin all you need to do is send an email to Jacquetta at Hope Church and request to be on the Weekly Bulletin email list. That will ensure that you are aware of upcoming events. Send to hopepresbyterian1771@gmail.com, Bob Strutzel, Chair, Communications Committee.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Hope, please call the office at 630-668-7750. Take time to find hope in everyday situations. God will comfort and bless you as you journey through life.



MONTHLY EVENTS AT HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Time:</u>
BNLC Worship	Every Sunday	1:00 pm
Prayer & Bible Study	Every Thursday	6:00 pm
RELICS	2x a Month	12:00 pm
Centering Prayer	Every 2 nd and 4 th Thursday	9:00 am
Elder session	Every 3 rd Tuesday	7:00 pm

Pastor: **Rev. Dr. R. Keith Beauchamp**

Administrative Assistant : **Jacquetta(Jay)Carter**

Office Phone : **630-668-7750**

Office Fax: **630-668-7950**

Hope's Email: hopepreswheaton1771@gmail.com

Hope Website: hopepresbyterian.org

Clerk of Session: Bill Borst
Church Treasurer: Debbie Wolski
Building & Grounds: Tom Schmidt

Elder Session

Bill Borst (630-699-3873)
Sheri Clubb (630-639-1220)
Betsy DiVita (630-248-4790)
Dave Donaldson (630-247-1205)
Carol Gats (630-404-2448)

Tom Schmidt (630-750-0004)
Glenn Stith (630-2176757)
Bob Strutzel (312-213-3466)
Jim Vroman (630-660-7416)