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## The Messenger

September  
2018

**Pastor**  
The Rev. Paul Herter

**Youth/Family Life**  
Becky Martinal. DCE

**Worship**  
Sundays  
8:30 (Classic Praise)  
11:00 a.m. (New Song)

**Bible Study**  
Sundays  
10:00 a.m. (all ages)  
Tuesdays  
9:30 a.m. (adults)  
Wednesdays  
10:00 a.m. (ladies)  
6:30 p.m. (adults)

# Live Out the True Gospel

Dear Ones in Christ Jesus,

*“My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge.”* Hosea 4:6a  
(The LORD speaking to and through His prophet Hosea, approx. 750 BC)

This Word of God could have been written today to the Church in America. The specific reference that God is making is about the faithless priests/ministers of Israel during Hosea’s time. In our Country today, how many pastors/ministers of the Church are no longer proclaiming God’s righteous justice and the true Gospel of Jesus Christ from the Bible but instead, teaching the so called “social justice” agenda and teaching the false gospel which is really no Gospel at all.

The difference between “justice” (as in “liberty and justice for all” from the Pledge of Allegiance) and “social justice” has been described by some as “Justice, as we have traditionally understood it theologically, politically and legally, applies to individuals. What the Left means by social justice is something quite different: a misguided notion of fairness applied to groups rather than individuals.” (– Rob Jenkins, 2013, Rockdale Newton Citizen) These changes in the use of language along with other “politically correct” applications to what were at one time, not too long ago, commonly accepted terminology, are having a terrible impact. Instead of seeking to resolve a problem, such changes only seem to make it worse. If you’re observant, you have noticed many examples of preferred treatment of various groups and minorities, which under some circumstances may be appropriate case by case. However, when such preference is automatically applied to some people but denied to others, that is actually practicing injustice!

Regarding the True Gospel, the Apostle Paul rebuked the Church at Galatia for failing to stay faithful and true to Christ: “I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God’s curse!” (Gal.1:6-8ff; for a statement of the Real Gospel see 1 Cor.15:1-10) Because the Christian Church is, it seems to me, mostly embracing the “social justice” and “politically correct” agenda rather than the truth of Holy Scripture, that this is clearly effecting our Nation and its institutions and not for the better. The Church is suffering, for sure, but this also impacts Public Education & Academia, Entertainment & the Arts, the Media, and of course, Government.

What can we Christians do? If we consider this from the Lord’s (i.e. Biblical) point of view, we must let our faith impact every area of our life, especially now, I believe, as we experience our day-to-day life as citizens of the United States. We must not compartmentalize our Christianity within the confines of the time spent on the physical premises of church property. Nothing new here, so let’s pray and serve – calling upon our Lord in prayer and doing good for our neighbor in the Name of Christ Jesus!

We must let our  
faith impact every  
area of our life.

Yours for a stronger Church and, therefore, a better America,

Pastor Paul

## A New Start

The soloist began to sing a special song during the worship service. It was awful! She had somehow started on the wrong note, terribly out of tune with the accompanist. She abruptly stopped and announced she needed a new start. She then began anew with a beautiful addition to the morning worship. Had she tried to limp through the first try, people would have remembered the off-key solo. Instead, by her second start, the congregation was assisted in their worship of the Lord.

That is the way it is with our lives, too. Our first start in life, our birth, is awful because of sin. We are born with a sin condition that makes it impossible for us to please God no matter how hard we try. We are captive to disobedience of God and His Law, to “doing it our way” and the passions of sin. But unlike the soloist we cannot even recognize we are out of tune with God.

Then it is God Who comes to us by His Word to show us our sin. It is He Who offers us grace and forgiveness through faith in Jesus Christ. It is He Who by His Holy

Spirit gives us that new start through Baptism. Through Baptism, we are united to Christ. Because Christ

died for our sins, we are baptized into the death of sin with Him, that we may be raised to new life with Him.

The Apostle Paul tells us, *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold the new has come.”* (2 Corinthians 5:17). God has redeemed and restored us into new people who live under the Lordship of Christ. We are given new hearts and a new nature. Through faith that God gives us, we live in Christ and for Him, and through faith, we serve Christ by serving others.

Now our lives can be pleasing to God, like the soloist’s second start. Not because of our work, but because of the power of God’s gracious gift to us, Holy Baptism.



### July 2018 Stewardship Summary

Average Church Attendance: 86  
Average Holy Communion Attendance: 41  
Education Hour - Adults & Youth: 29; Confirmation & Elementary: 4;

## Thank You!

July 31, 2018

Dear Pastor Herter,

We are extremely grateful for your and your congregation’s gift of \$480.00, which will provide the Word of God to active-duty troops and veterans via Military BibleSticks.

We continue to receive thank you notes and testimonies like this one from the men and women being blessed and transformed by your generosity:

*“I received my Bible Stick at the range and ever since, I have listened to it at least one hour a day. I love the way it makes the Bible come alive, it is not just someone reading to you. This is fantastic way to share the word of God! I hope that through this technology many people find their way into the saving grace of our Lord. God bless you and your donors for what you do.”*

Thanks again,

Your servant in Christ,

Morgan Jackson, Senior Vice President  
Faith Comes by Hearing Ministry

Thank you for your generous gift in support of our annual Baby Bottle drive! We celebrate and give God glory for the outpouring of love, support, and prayers that are offered to Care Pregnancy Center of Lenawee during our Baby Bottle Drive and continuing throughout the year! Your contribution counts immeasurably. [Hope’s contribution this year was \$94.00.]

I am reminded of the miracle of the multiplied loaves, from John 6:5-13, and the manner in which Jesus raised what was collected to God and HE provided the multiplication. We now lift in thanksgiving and to the glory of God ALL that has been given in this collection of change for the purpose of changing hearts and lives here at CPC.

At this time our giving thermometer is reading nearly \$40,000.00 of our \$45,000.00 goal. We know that the bottles will continue to trickle in and the thermometer will continue to rise as God blesses and multiplies!

We celebrate you and the work that you are doing in our community to spread the Gospel of Hope in Jesus Christ and help us in the fulfillment of our CPC mission as we seek to change hearts and lives by providing Christian care to elevate God’s plan for the sacredness of life, sexuality, and the family in our community.

May God richly bless you!

In His service by His grace,  
Roxanne Meeks, Executive Director  
Care Pregnancy Center of Lenawee

## Operation Christmas Child Coming Soon!

### **A BIBLE AND A SHOEBOX**

Before Alex started The Greatest Journey, he attended cult meetings in the village with his mother and father. But since he became a Christian, their family no longer participates.

“Now, I know I will go to Heaven,” Alex said. “All the bible stories I learned during The Greatest Journey\* were new to me. My favorite lesson was about Jesus’ death and resurrection.”

...Alex’s favorite item in his shoebox was a New Testament, written in Tagalog—the national language of the Philippines. From among the millions of shoebox gifts distributed around the world, God guided this single box into the hands of a child who now considers God’s Word his greatest treasure.

Reprinted from “Prayer Point”

\*The Bible study, “The Greatest Journey” is offered to every child who receives a Christmas box.

Prayerfully consider filling a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child this year. Boxes will be collected in early November. If you have questions about this program, please contact Vikki Ritzert (517) 260-5557.

## **Pig and Jig**

Saturday, October 6, 2018  
5 – 8 p.m.

Invite a friend or neighbor or two  
and join us here at Hope  
for an evening of food and fun.

There will be family activities.

Menu: hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, root beer floats

RSVP for you and your guests by September 23 by signing the sign-up sheet or calling the church office

C U there!

*“The fear of the LORD  
is the beginning of wisdom,  
and knowledge of the Holy One  
is understanding.”  
Proverbs 9:10*

## **TIGER NIGHT**

Tiger Baseball Night at Hope Lutheran Church is Saturday, September 15, featuring “The Voice of Comerica Park,” Bobb Vergiels. Bobb has been the Public Address Announcer for the past 15 years. He will provide insights on the Detroit Tigers both on and off the field.

A prime rib dinner will be served after a brief “Meet & Greet” at 5:30 p.m. Doors will open at 5:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$15.00 each and will be available from the men of Hope after August 27.

Help is needed to prepare for Tiger Night. **Call Patti Vergiels, 517-230-4312**, to help with meal preparation. **Call Mike Vergiels, 517-662-0790**, for more information or to volunteer to help set-up, serve, or clean-up.

## **Wednesday Night**

The Wednesday Evening Bible studies continue in September. On September 5, Becky Martinal will direct a review of “Following Jesus on His Mission: Show Me How.” Beginning September 19, Pastor Paul will lead a discussion on a topic to be announced. Study runs from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Join us as we each become more aware of where God is at work in our own lives, and in the lives of those around us.

## **Small Group Studies**

A small group Bible Study, led by Ron Gentz, began meeting again at 9:30 a.m., on Tuesday, August 21, in the Fellowship Hall at church. The study will be the book of Job. Contact Ron Gentz at 486-4376, for more information.



Ladies small group Bible Study, led by Joann Wachter, will begin meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday mornings in September in the Fellowship Hall at church. Contact Joann at 517-442-2739, for more information.

## **Tooltime – It’s About Parenting**

On Saturday, September 8, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Dr. Ben Freudenberg, Director of Concordia Center for Families, will present a workshop on Parenting tools at Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 751 N. Maple Grove Ave., Hudson. There will be activities for children and times to talk as a family. For more information, call Our Saviour, 448-6271.

## Fall Rally

The Fall Rally of the Irish Hills Zone will be held at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 11151 US12, Brooklyn, MI, on **Saturday, October 6**, beginning at 9:00 a.m. with coffee and rolls. More information will be available in the October Messenger. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

### Rummage Sale



We are planning to hold a Fall Rummage Sale AFTER the Pig 'n' Jig. The tentative dates are October 18, 19, 20.

Until then:

**DO NOT** bring in items before Sunday, October 7!

**DO** go through your closets, cupboards, garages, attics, etc. and decide which items you are willing and want to part with.

**DO NOT** bring in clothes and decorations that are out of season (spring, summer, Easter, July 4<sup>th</sup>), dirty or ready to be used as rags.

**DO** be ready to bring in seasonal clothes and decorations (fall, winter, Halloween, Christmas). Items, tools, for instance, that appeal to men are always welcome.

Any questions? Talk to Sharron Sheridan, 403-0065.

## Adult Choir Rehearsals Begin for 2018-2019 Season

Hope's Adult Choir is reforming and beginning rehearsals in September. The Choir sings during the Classic Praise (8:30 a.m.) service.

The new season of praising God begins with our first rehearsal on Thursday, September 13, at 7:15 p.m. in the sanctuary. Rehearsals then continue each Thursday evening from 7:15 – 8:15 p.m.

All voices willing to join us singing the praises of our great God and Savior are welcome! For more information, contact choir director, Dene Minnema, 263-2538.

### Special Sunday Schedule

**September 30, 2018**

**8:45 a.m. Coffee & Donuts**

**Bible Classes for All Ages at 9:00 a.m.**

**ONE Service at 10:00 a.m. with Communion  
Blessing of the Backpacks**

Meal following

## Hope Women

Hope Women in Mission will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, September 10, for a planning meeting. All ideas are welcomed. Mites are welcomed. Sharron will have some ideas to help set our activities in place.

### Dedicated Mites at Work

What a blessed privilege we have – to assist in mission work through the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) by saving our loose change (and currency) in our mite containers. This is one simple way to help spread God's kingdom, something everyone can do!

You can put the contents of your mite box/container into a sturdy zip-loc bag, mark them as mites, and give them to Mary Martinal Sunday morning. God bless you!

This month as you put money into your mite container, say a prayer for the Mission Grants chosen by the delegates of the Michigan District meeting in convention July 2018 in Port Huron MI:

1. Filling Pulpits by Providing Scholarships for Michigan Men in Seminary \$25,000
2. The Luke Project 52 Mother & Baby Clinic \$25,000
3. Financial Assistance for Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN, Food & Clothing Coop to Purchase Food \$10,000
4. Trinity HOPE Haitian Feeding Program \$15,000
5. Acts 2 Enterprise – Impacting Lives in Michigan's Urban Communities \$25,000
6. New Beginnings for Children with Learning Needs \$25,000
7. Women Reaching Arab Women with the Gospel in Dearborn, MI \$25,000
8. Scholarships for Female Students Studying to be a Deaconess or Professional Church Worker \$20,000
9. Lutheran Books for Missionaries Around the World (Lutheran Heritage Foundation) \$15,000
10. Expanding the Connecting Kids to Christ Tutoring Program \$25,000
11. Support for Concordia Seminary's Inter'l Graduate School Students \$10,000
12. MOST Ministries Eyeglass Edger \$22,050

Total Mission Grant Goal \$242,050

**You are the face of LWML**

# September Celebrations

## Happy Birthday

Sandy Houck	1
Allison Wetzel	2
Lucas Logan	3
Michael Ann Vuiller Biggs	6
Madysen Fowler	8
Dee Weisenfelder	12
Lillian Fogarty	14
Eleanor Schippers	15
Fred Houck	17
Madeline Neal	23

## Baptismal Anniversaries

Ron Gentz	7
John Butler	8
Vivian Knight	11
Luella Goetz	13
Cathy Dusseau	14
Tricia Moyer-Fowler	25
Allison Wetzel	26

## Wedding Anniversaries

Jose & Hilda Cortez	4
Rev. Paul & Carol Herter	4
Ron & Dianne Gentz	7
Fred & Sandy Houck	10
Michael & Ann Vuiller	14
Dr. Fred & Brittney Hauch	16
Jim & Diana Gulliksen	17
Phil & Deb Joannis	23
Norman & Vivian Knight	25

### Congratulations

... to Ron & Dianne Gentz, on their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary Sept. 7  
 ... to Dr. Fred & Brittney Hauch on their 1<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary Sept. 16  
 ... to Phil & Deb Joannis, on their 1<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary Sept. 23

### We Pray This Month:

For the Nations of the world for peace and healing from her troubles

For Our Nation –

that God would provide comfort and support to all who have lost their homes and/or loved ones to storms, floods, fire or violence and keep all our firefighters and police officers safe that God would guide and protect our military wherever they are serving.

For His Church –

that God would strengthen and protect all His people and move them to witness boldly

For Hope –

that God would guide our Administrative Board as they do their work and would raise godly leaders to assist us in fulfilling our mission for God

that God would bless and grow our Sunday School, our congregation,

For Those who grieve: families of: Kelly O'Neil; Joe Wagley, Jr.; Jim Whalen

For Those (among many others) who struggle with illness or injuries –

Myrna Sheldon	DeLight Sieler	Virginia Woodard
Helen Bendes (arthritis)	Dave & Dee Weisenfelder	Margaret Parker
Bonnie Posten (eyes)	Patti Vergiels (back/ankle)	Maynard Howard
Marnella Campbell	Dianne Gentz	Dorothy Studnicka
Sandy Houck	Esther von Fange	Pastor Paul (back)
Donna Hill	Tricia Moyer-Fowler	Jutta Gross
Diana Gulliksen	Alan Garrison	Colleen Duell
Jaxon Stanley (not growing)	Steve Fulton	Ethan Jameson
Eric Montroy (needs new liver)	Fonda Bozeman (arthritis)	Larry & Betty Bendes
Adam Bartek (dialysis)	Kimberley Balowski	Karen Webb (stroke)
The Davis Family	Bill & Jeanie Landry	Phyllis Hackney
The Lee Family	Jamie Murphy (cirrhosis)	Tammie Murphy
Fred Faust (cancer)	Gregg Hopkins (cancer)	Steve McRobert (cancer)
Carol Roper (cancer)	Mark Garcia (cancer)	Sherry Williams (cancer)
George MacBlaine (cancer)	Bonnie Jansen (cancer)	Vicki Hanconck (cancer)
Christie Lemley (cancer)	Gregg Hopkins (cancer)	Gregg Woods (cancer)
Kevin (cancer)	Sally Sharp (hospice)	William Thiel (hospice)

We give thanks to God for His many blessings.

Contact the Church Office, 263-4317 or [hopelcms@tc3net.com](mailto:hopelcms@tc3net.com), with new requests and/or updates.

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# September 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2      15 <sup>th</sup> S. after Pentecost 8:30am Classic Praise [C] 10:00am Education Hour 11:00am New Song 12:30pm Youth Group	3      Labor Day Office Closed	4 9:30am Gentz Small Group	5 6:30pm Joining Jesus recap@ church	6	7	1 <hr/> 8 10am Grace Place Refresh 6pm Parenting Tools @ Hudson
Invite friends to Pig and Jig on October 6						
9      16 <sup>th</sup> S. after Pentecost Rally Day 8:30am Classic Praise 10am Education Hour 11:00am New Song [C]	10 5:30pm Outreach Mtg. 6:30pm Hope Women	11 9:30am Gentz Small Group	12	13 9:30am Home School Group 6:30pm Elders 7:15pm Choir	14	15 9am Irish Hills Zone Board Meeting @ Redeemer, Jackson
16      17 <sup>th</sup> S. after Pentecost 8:30am Classic Praise [C] 10:00am Education Hour 11:00am New Song 4:00pm Prayer Time	17 6pm Admin Bd	18 9:30am Gentz Small Group	19 10am Ladies Bible study 6:30pm Bible Study Newsletter Deadline	20 9:30am Home School Group 7:15pm Choir	21	22
23      18 <sup>th</sup> S. after Pentecost 8:30am Classic Praise 10:00am Education Hour 11:00am New Song [C] <b>RSVPs due for Pig and Jig</b>	24	25 9:30am Gentz Small Group	26 10am Ladies Bible study 6:30pm Bible Study	27 9:30am Home School Group 7:15pm Choir	28	29
30      19 <sup>th</sup> S. after Pentecost 8:45am Coffee & Donuts 9:00am Education Hour 10:00am Worship [C]						[C] = Communion

## September 2018 Servant Schedule

**USHERS: 8:30 a.m. Sept.:** John Butler, Jay Butler, Lowell Oberhaus,  
**11:00 a.m. Sept. 2 & 16:** Otto Bilkey, James P. Sheridan,  
**11:00 a.m. Sept. 9 & 23:** Rick Wetzel, Jon Henzi, Tom Sande,

**Sept. 2**      8:30 a.m. **ELDER:** Bill Kohn; **ELDER ASS'T:** Jerry Johnson; **LITURGY ASS'T:** Mike Vergiels; **READER:** Sue Muck; **COMMUNION:** Jerry & Phyllis Johnson  
 11:00 a.m. **READERS:** Youth, Jon Henzi

**Sept. 9**      8:30 a.m. **ELDER:** John Butler; **LITURGY ASS'T:** John Butler; **READER:** Judy Theung  
 11:00 a.m. **ELDER:** Rick Wetzel; **ELDER ASS'T:** Otto Bilkey; **READERS:** envoy; **COMMUNION:** The Sande Family

**Sept. 16**      8:30 a.m. **ELDER:** John Butler; **ELDER ASS'T:** Hans Jacobsson; **LITURGY ASS'T:** Dick Kuntz; **READER:** Dee Weisenfelder; **COMMUNION:** Linda Kitchen, Arleen Jacobsson  
 11:00 a.m. **ELDER:** Jim Logan; **READERS:** Helen Bendes, Jim Logan

**Sept. 23**      8:30 a.m. **ELDER:** Ron Gentz; **LITURGY ASS'T:** Jerry Johnson; **READER:** Hilda Cortez  
 11:00 a.m. **ELDER:** Rick Wetzel; **ELDER ASS'T:** Otto Bilkey; **READERS:** Carol Herter, Rick Wetzel; **COMMUNION:** Richard & Mary Anne Hoyt

**Sept. 30**      10:00 a.m. **ELDER:** Jim Logan; **ELDER ASS'T:** Joe Cortez; **READERS:** Judy Parros, Dale Martinal; **COMMUNION:** the Martinal Family