

July 2023 Newsletter



Living Hope Global Methodist Church

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Pastor Joshua Swaim

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday School 8:30 am
(September-May)

Worship 9:45 am

From the Pastor's Desk

35 Then he said to his colleagues, "Men of Israel, take care what you are planning to do to these men! 36 Some time ago there was that fellow Theudas, who pretended to be someone great. About 400 others joined him, but he was killed, and all his followers went their various ways. The whole movement came to nothing. 37 After him, at the time of the census, there was Judas of Galilee. He got people to follow him, but he was killed, too, and all his followers were scattered.

38 "So my advice is, leave these men alone. Let them go. If they are planning and doing these things merely on their own, it will soon be overthrown. **39 But if it is from God, you will not be able to overthrow them.** You may even find yourselves fighting against God!"

40 The others accepted his advice. They called in the apostles and had them flogged. Then they ordered them never again to speak in the name of Jesus, and they let them go.

41 The apostles left the high council rejoicing that God had counted them worthy to suffer disgrace for the name of Jesus. 42 And every day, in the Temple and from house to house, they continued to teach and preach this message: "Jesus is the Messiah." **(Acts 5:35-42)**

Jesus told us the truth. He told us that **"the gates of Hades would not prevail against His church!" (Matthew 16:18)** He taught that, **"this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come."** (Matthew 24:14). Our God has a purpose and plan, and that plan will prevail. The purpose is that the gospel of salvation be spread throughout the whole earth, that every tribe and nation would know of our Good God offering salvation to every human heart! His plan is that all who are His children would come home to Him! The church was purposed for this plan. It is our calling, as a church, to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. This plan

will prevail for it is born of God, fulfilled in Jesus, and powered by God's Spirit!

Gamaliel, a Jewish teacher of the law, understood this perfectly. From his statement in Acts 5 above, he understood perfectly well what it meant to observe and allow the hand of God to move before them (and not get in the way!) God was moving on behalf of His church in Acts and has done so to this very day. God's plan continues on!

We are beginning a new and exciting part of this plan right now. God has moved and we are going with Him! **Starting, July 1, 2023, we will become Living Hope Global Methodist Church!** I am so excited for all God has planned for us, as His Church, in this place. The vision of the GMC is "to join God in a journey of bringing new life, reconciliation, and the presence of Christ to all people, and to helping each person reflect the character of Christ." The mission is, "Our Mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly." As we follow this vision and mission, my prayer is that God would continue to fill His people with His plan and purpose of salvation to go out from His Church (through us) so that more of His sons and daughters come home. Just like those first disciples, may we never stop **"teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ."** Church, this is a very exciting time to observe and allow the hand of God to move before our very eyes... Do you see it?

Let's Go Living Hope!

Pastor Josh

Financial News

Lisbon United Methodist Church transitioning to Living Hope Global Methodist Church in Lisbon effective July 1, 2023.

- Building ownership becomes an asset of the Living Hope Global Methodist Church in Lisbon
- Assets and liabilities get transferred to Living Hope Global Methodist Church in Lisbon

- Assets: Current checking \$267,070 (includes restricted money for designated use)
 - Mary Kettering Scholarship fund \$44,678.02
- Liabilities: No long-term liabilities, monthly bills vary

For the past few years (including the Covid-19 pandemic years), Sunday worship in-person attendance has been down. Weekly and monthly giving is down, and costs have been stable.

Our church is financially strong. God has blessed our church, and we should rejoice for that blessing.

We have a wonderful opportunity to grow our church. Let us spread the good news that the church is here for each of us to learn more about Jesus Christ and to worship together. We are here to serve Jesus Christ!

Exciting news!!

Living Hope GMC will be having a food booth for Sauerkraut Days August 18 & 19. The planning committee, consisting of Mike & Melissa Reiling, Penny Kula, and Jan Mattson, is excited about all the changes taking place in our church fellowship this year, and so, have decided to simplify our booth's menu. This year we will be offering grilled pork loin sandwiches, desserts, and bottled water. In addition to the usual pies and bars, we will be making home-made ice cream sandwiches. We will offer 5 kinds of cookie sandwiches--snickerdoodle, sugar, chocolate chip, chocolate, and monster cookies. To make the ice cream sandwiches, the cookies need to be 3 to 3 ½" in diameter. Bakers, please start your ovens! Cookies can be made any time as they need to be frozen. Please wrap the baked cookies in foil between layers of waxed paper when freezing to avoid any plastic taste. There will be a freezer at church if you need it to freeze the cookies. Look for sign-up sheets at church next Sunday, July 2nd. We will need volunteers to bake, work, and provide monetary donations. Thank you so much for your help and support!! The Sauerkraut Days Committee

UWF Thank You!

TO ALL LISBON UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH:

I would just like to say from the bottom of my heart a thank you for participating in our Garage/Bake Sale Fundraiser on Saturday, June 17th! WOW!!!!!! Our missions made almost \$2600.00!!!!!!

Events like these cannot happen without people coming together and working for a great cause. You are good and faithful servants in the eyes of our Lord!!

Take care.

Blessings to all,

Wendy Johnson, President, Lisbon United Women in Faith

Small Group Studies

These studies are open to ALL. Come join one or more to hear the word of God and build a lasting relationship with Him and fellow Christians.

Men's Breakfast @ VJ Reinken 108 Grant Ave Lisbon

This group meets a 7:00am for a devotional reading from My Utmost for His Highest, prayer, breakfast, and Christian Fellowship.

Sisters in Christian Study (SCS)- The next SCS meeting will be July 19 in the Upper Room. The study is "The Women of the Bible Speak." All women are invited to attend. Hope to see you there. For questions, please contact Dawn Morgan.

Women in Christ (WIC)- The WIC meeting was held June 2, 2023, in the Fellowship Hall with 9 present. Nancy Forbes was Hostess with cupcakes and snacks. The lesson was from the book God's Love Through Psalms, Chapter 4, The God Who Calms Fears, Psalms 27 by all those present. The UWF Purpose was recited. The Scripture was Isaiah 52:7 "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, 'Your God reigns!'" Prayer requests were made, and Nancy Forbes led

us in prayer. Roll Call was “Your rod/staff comfort me _____ is greatest comfort, aside from God.

Our mission is a freewill offering for milk or lunch to Lisbon School and for May was \$95. Hostess for the July 7 meeting will be Sharon Krambeck and the lesson by everyone present. We were reminded that the Church is having a garage sale and bake sale on June 17. The meeting was closed with everyone reciting the prayer.

Adult Sunday School-Is not meeting again until next fall.

Bible Study- Tuesday afternoon study is not meeting again until next fall.

Woman’s Bible Study- Is not meeting again until next fall.

Usher Schedule

July 2	Kruse, Mattson
July 9	McAndrew, Morgan
July 16	Johnson, Schmidt
July 23	Morningstar, Budde
July 30	Downey-Pata, Wiskus

Please keep the following in your prayers

Jim Thomson, Tiffany (Terri Towry’s daughter), Jake Siggins, Fred Himes, Sharon and Curt Headington, Chris Burns, Marlene Booth, Mark McAndrew, The Family of Denise Smith, Ralph Jordan,

Thank you, Jesus, for the answers to our prayers! We praise and thank You for new life, healing of the injured and sick, providing our daily needs! We lift up prayers for our family members who are sick, hospitalized, injured, and those who are in need. We ask for Your Presence in our community and in our world. Amen

Vacation Bible School

July 30-Aug 3, 2023

6-8:30pm

It's that time of year again when we get to celebrate and do what we are called to do as followers of Christ. We get the opportunity to open our doors even more than they already are, to bring in children from all over the area. We get to work with and teach kids about the love and undeniable awesomeness that we get through Christ! We have the opportunity to teach, break bread, exercise, learn, create, dance, sing, laugh, and maybe shed a tear or two. I am of course talking about Vacation Bible School! Dates are July 30th-August 3rd. The evening starts at 6:00pm and will run roughly till about 8:30pm at the latest. I am looking for volunteers to help teach, lead in dancing, do some little acting, help kids become creative, play games, and even just people to walk kids around. The best part of this all.....We will be doing God's work, having fun, making memories, and this will be the FIRST EVER.....Living Hope Global Methodist Church in Lisbon program! Who doesn't want to be a part of history? I know I have already been through some historical events, through the early 20's of this century, but now it is time to be part of a positive historical event! If you have any questions, please reach out to me by email, text, phone call, or bug me in person at home or at church. you can reach me at nicholas.booth66@gmail.com (319)721-5509, or visit me at home at 119 E Market St. I'm right across from the church where all of these amazing things will be taking place.

Your brother in Christ,
Nick Booth
Chair of Christian Education



Information Center

Check out the Information Centers outside the sanctuary and by the church office, where you will find:

- ❖ Monthly Newsletter
- ❖ Small Group Information
- ❖ Who's Who at the Church
 - Pastor, Ad Council Members and Church Committee Members
- ❖ Church History
- ❖ United Women in Faith Information
- ❖ Our Daily Bread



Lost and Found

If you are missing an item and think you may have left it at the church, please check the lost and found area in the library. All unclaimed items will be disposed of after 30 days. *Thank you!*

Reminder-If you would like a copy of the new Our Daily Bread, Mike and Dawn Morgan will deliver them to your home. Please call the office at 319-455-2000.

***Reminder: Please have all articles/information for the August newsletter to the church office by July 26.**

We will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows, and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.