

# In Touch with Hope

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF HOPE CHURCH

OCTOBER 2024

## Pastor James Runcorn

Lead Pastor

### Five, Five, Five or 5/5/5

Do you remember the Ice Bucket Challenge back in 2014? People would dump a bucket of ice and freezing water over their heads to raise funds and awareness to combat ALS.

Several other challenges were inspired by this: the Hipster Challenge, the Sriracha Challenge, the Crisco Challenge, Planking, the Trick Shot Challenge, the One Chip Challenge (which I've done twice and I fully regret)... and multiple others.

Challenges can be fun, rewarding and sometimes completely stupid or dangerous. Sometimes, challenges can create a movement in order to raise awareness for good causes and other times they can simply be for the purpose of online fame.

If we seek out challenges for the sake of joining a popular trend or to point the spotlight at ourselves, it is a waste of time. However, our family has discovered a challenge I'd like to invite all of you to participate in. It's called, "5/5/5." We ran across it as a challenge to parents for their kids: Give your kids 5 minutes of worship, 5 minutes of Scripture reading and 5 minutes of prayer time each day. It's only 15 minutes. How many hours do we typically burn away in front of a screen each day? Jesus instructed people to seek God's Kingdom first (Matthew 6:33). Do we shy away from that because we don't know how, or the task seems overwhelming?

5/5/5 is not just for kids. Anyone can participate. But this challenge is not about gaining fame or respect from our peers. This challenge is a part of the life of a disciple of Jesus. Paul says to pray continually (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). The psalmist writes, "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you" (Psalm 119:11). The best way to learn God's word is by reading it. Psalm 71:8 speaks of continually praising God, "all day long." We can move towards these disciplines together. It doesn't have to be daunting.

In order to take part in the lifestyle God desires for His people, we have to begin somewhere. Will you take the challenge with me?

*And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds...but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*

*Hebrews 10:24-25*

**Pastor Jay Van Gelder**

Youth Pastor




We have started a New Series based on the movie "Woodlawn"

HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH

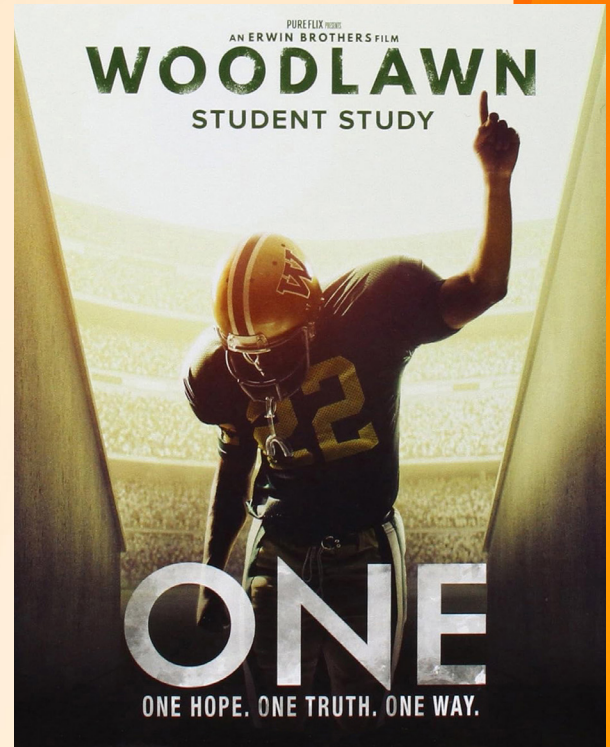
**TRAVELING**

**LOCK**

**IN**

**NOV 16-17, 2024**



If you have not watched the movie, I would highly recommend it for a family movie night. It is available to rent on Amazon Prime. The movie covers topics of forgiveness, preparation, mentors, taking risks, your platform and influencing others with the Gospel.



**ONLINE REGISTRATION**  
**CLOSES: SUN, NOV 3**  
**FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED**



**SCAN TO REGISTER**  
**OR USE LINK**



[hopechurchspencer.breezechms.com/form/LockIN2024](https://hopechurchspencer.breezechms.com/form/LockIN2024)

**COST**

**You & a Friend: \$50 + \$50**  
**Hope Youth Alone: \$75**

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH**

**ROCKY+**

Rocky+ is an experience to extend and amplify the excitement and anticipation of Rocky Mountain High.

**NWC CHRIST CHAPEL**  
**ORANGE CITY, IOWA**  
**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9**  
**7:30 P.M.**  
**WITH ASHLEY BOHINC +**  
**ORCHARD HILL COLLECTIVE**  
**CULTIVATE.CO.ORG/ROCKYPLUS**

*We will drive youth to event.*

# YOUTH AUCTION

*We are going to move the Youth Auction from November to March this year.*

A couple of reasons are 1) the basement will not be done to move the stuff that is currently taking space in the Harbor. And 2) we feel asking businesses that are starting to re-open or have not opened yet to donate is probably not the best timing for our community.

So the plan is to have the Youth Auction in March of 2025, just like we've done in the past.

*We will keep you posted on a specific date.*

# Children's Church

**What is Children's Church?** Children's Church is offered year-round, during both worship services as a learning and play experience for children ages 3 years old through pre-kindergarten. Children will learn a Bible Story and Bible memory verse taught through The Gospel Project curriculum that directly ties in with the lesson they will learn that day in Preschool Sunday School!

**What are the logistics?** Children's Church kiddos are dismissed from "big church" during the offering time. Children, along with their adult, can exit the Sanctuary doors where they will be met by our Children's Church volunteers to get checked in. Once checked in, adults can head back to "big church" and kiddos will head down to the Preschool Wing with our Children's Church volunteers!

**A note for 8:30AM Attendees:** Children attending the 8:30AM service and staying for Preschool Sunday School will stay in Children's Church and transition right into Sunday School. Parents/guardians do not need to check their child out until the conclusion of Sunday School at 10:40AM.

**A note for 10:45AM Attendees:** Children who attended Sunday School and will then attend the 10:45AM service will still need to check out of Sunday School at 10:40AM and attend "big church" with their adult until Children's Church is dismissed.

When picking up your child from Children's Church or Preschool Sunday School, please use the main hallway to enter the Preschool Wing (on the left, just past the nursery!).

*Thank you to our wonderful Children's Church Team for making this ministry possible for Hope Families!*

**Adult Teachers:** Abby Johnson, Alyssa Clark, Briana Wetrich, Jean Steen, Jill Lowe, Kyle and Mallory Rehnstrom and Molly Lovin. **Student Assistants:** Janey Carey, Sophie Kabrick, Brooklynn Reynolds, Aaden Techen, Maxx Techen, Nolan Techen, Morgan Kutzbach, Averie Nelson, Avery McEntee, Meghan Van Drunen, Zoey Van Drunen, Maia Brown, Hallie Brown, Paisley Atherton, Emily Holt, Brayden Warren, Carter Warren, Addison Warren, Winora Dorcy, Gretchen Haak, Josie Haak, Mila Prenzlou and Marley Prenzlou.



# Sunday School



The re-build of the basement is coming along! Just a reminder of where Sunday school classes are meeting:

**PRESCHOOL** is back to their normal classrooms in the Preschool Wing.

**ELEMENTARY K-5TH GRADE** is meeting in the Harbor.

*Please remember to check in at the Kiosk before Sunday School in the Harbor Entrance.*

# Upcoming Sunday School Lessons

## PRESCHOOL

- Oct 6 Jacob and Esau
- Oct 13 Joseph is Taken to Egypt
- Oct 20 God Called Moses
- Oct 27 God Used Samson

## ELEMENTARY

- Oct 6 Jesus was Tempted
- Oct 13 Jesus Called His Disciples
- Oct 20 Big Truth Session: Jesus Came to be the Sacrifice for Sin
- Oct 27 Jesus Told Nicodemus about Eternal Life

# MISSIONS

## WORDS OF HOPE

**What is the mission of Words of Hope?** The mission of Words of Hope is to provide people both near and far with daily access to God's Word. Words of Hope isn't just a devotional ministry, and it's not just a mission's agency either! As you connect daily to the truths of Scripture with Words of Hope, you will also grow in your appreciation of and care for the global church. Funding from Hope Church and your funds go directly to providing access to Scripture for people living around the world. Words of hope provides stores of

conversion, faith, and discipleship, encouraging your own faith walk. The Words of Hope mission will draw you near to the global church both near and far.

**How does the ministry work?** Words of Hope connects you daily to the truths of Scripture and helps you to grow in your appreciation of and care for the global church. Resources donated to Words of Hope go directly to providing access to Scripture for people living around the world. Stories of conversion, faith, and discipleship from the global church encourage your faith walk, and Christ's church is built near and far!

**What does Words of Hope believe?** At Words of Hope, we believe that Jesus Christ is the hope of the world. We believe that the Bible reveals God's truth. We believe that God commissions us to make disciples of all nations. We affirm the Apostles' Creed.

**Where does Words of Hope work?** We provide a daily English devotional in print, online, and through a smartphone app free of charge to everyone who asks. We also equip indigenous leaders to share the hope of Jesus in over 70 languages around the world. We support local leaders in unreached and under-resourced parts of the world, including Niger, Uganda, South Sudan, Turkey, Albania, Iran, India, Nepal, Bhutan, and Indonesia. In the past our funding was steered to outreach in Indonesia which is predominately Muslim.

**How is Words of Hope funded?** Words of Hope exists only through the generosity of churches and individuals committed to our mission. We receive no denominational assessments or mission shares.

Please pray for open hearts to the outreach of Words of Hope. You can give directly to this missions opportunity by visiting [woh.org](http://woh.org)

## Women's Painting Night

**OCTOBER 28  
6:30 PM**



Hope Church Women's Ministry is hosting a night of fellowship and painting on Monday, October 28, at 6:30 pm in the harbor.

Christina Mueggenberg will instruct the class. We will be painting a fall canvas.

Please sign up at the Kiosk or call the church office at 262-3016 so we know how many supplies are needed.

## SMALL GROUPS

**Terry Stevens**

Director of Adult Discipleship

### Rooted Launch is Underway!!!

I am very excited to watch God work in each of the groups! If I could ask one thing from Hope Church, that is to pray for the individuals of these groups. Pray walls will be torn down and chains broken. Pray for the Holy Spirit to fill each of the members as they go through these next 10 weeks. Pray for the facilitators that they are guided by the Holy Spirit as they walk along side of them.

As always, if you are interested in joining a Rooted group and have questions, please come talk to me or send an email at [tstevens@spencerhope.org](mailto:tstevens@spencerhope.org). I would love to give you all the information needed, so you are ready to join the next round of Rooted.

Blessings ~ Terry Stevens

## Concerns For

Please continue to lift up the following people and families in prayer:

- Gordon Schmidt's daughter, Sheila, and her cancer treatments
- Jennifer Williams cousin-in-law, Jenni, - she is recovering from a fall, fracturing a couple vertebrae
- Jason Vulk who is recovering from heart surgery
- Harold Hammerstrom and family. Harold was placed on hospice care.

## Celebrate With

Alex and Liz Seaman on the birth of their daughter, Arizona, on Monday, September 16.

## Condolences to

Joyce Klein and family on the passing of Joyce's grandson, Aiden Mumma, from time to eternity.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

Communion Sunday

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

Senior High Youth Rocky+ Event

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

Trunk or Treat -Light the Night for Jesus!  
5-7 pm

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 28

Women's Painting Event  
6:30 pm

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30

Caregivers Ministry Meeting  
9:30 am

### SATURDAY/SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16/17

MS/HS Youth Traveling Lock-In

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Thanksgiving Service

# TRUNK OR TREAT

LIGHTING  
THE NIGHT  
FOR JESUS

OCT  
**27**  
5-7PM

**A LOT OF CANDY IS NEEDED!**  
(40,000 pieces) Your generosity  
is greatly appreciated!

Please place bags in the container  
in front of the office.



CANDY  
GAMES  
FUN!

### How else can you get involved?

You can decorate a car, work at one  
of the many stations that night  
and bring your kids.

To decorate a car or work at a station,  
sign up in the Lobby.

# CONSISTORY MINUTES

**Present:** Pastor James Runcorn, Pastor Jay Van Gelder. **Elders:** Bruce Groen, Jeff Helmink, Doug Siepkes, Bob Campbell, Kevin Vander Stoep. **Deacons:** Terry Stevens, Ryan Christoffel, Jason Warren, Knut Brown, Ryan Hoskins  
August 16 • 7:00 pm

Meeting called to order by Pastor James and opening prayer by Pastor James  
Devotional: Knut Brown covered questions 105-107 of the Heidelberg Catechism: The Sixth Commandment  
Regular Business

- Approved June 20, 2024, meeting minutes-MMSC (Bob/Doug)
- Approved June 26, 2024 emergency consistory meeting minutes regarding emergency flood assistance for Hope and Spencer and surrounding areas affected (Bob/Jason)
- Approved June/July 2024, financials -MMSC (Jason/Terry)
- June 2024 giving and attendance analysis-Jason W/Ryan C
- Discussed a capital campaign to help pay basement repairs which are substantial and not covered by insurance
- Around the room check in with each of the consistory and pastors
- Team Reports were given
- Pastor's Report was given

Other Business

- Both Pastors James and Jay are now ordained Pastors with the ARC
  - Consistory retreat - September 27-28, 2024
  - Next Consistory Meeting: 9/12/24
  - Need some kind of orientation for new elders and deacons; check with the ARC
- Closing Prayer - Kevin Vander Stoep

Elders Meeting

- Prayer by Pastor James
- Congregational Care: Transfer of Curt & Sam Geyer to Downtown Church in Milford
- Caregiver Support Group hopefully launch in September
- Follow up forms - Samaritan's Purse salvations or re-dedications
- Closed in prayer by Doug Siepkes

Deacon Meeting

- Present: Pastor James Runcorn, Ryan Christoffel, Ryan Hoskins, Alex Johnson, Knut Brown, Jason Warren, Julia Andela, Michael Fujimoto, Tena Runcorn
- Opening Prayer by James Runcorn
  - Discussed basement project planning. Did a building walk around
  - Preliminarily set up a fundraising sub-committee for the basement
  - Harbor roof shingling project discussed
  - Received flood funds from Grace Church in Emmetsburg
  - Approved Sabbatical funds for Pastor Jay
  - Talked about cost for audio/video upgrades needed for the sound system
  - Ryan Hoskins closed in prayer

## ELDER AND DEACON NOMINATIONS

*Nomination forms will be mailed October 16. All confessing members of Hope Church will be able to nominate people.*

*Each nominee must be a confessing member of Hope Church, be at least 21 years of age, support the mission and vision of Hope Church and meet the Biblical qualifications.*

*Please prayerfully fill out your nomination form and return them to the church office by Friday, November 1.*

## Worship Services

**SUNDAYS:** 8:30 am and 10:45 am

8:30 am service live-streamed online: [www.youtube.com/hopechurchspencer](http://www.youtube.com/hopechurchspencer)

## Sunday School

**SUNDAYS:** 9:45 - 10:40 am Preschool through Adult

## Hope Church Staff

**James Runcorn**, Lead Pastor | **Jay Van Gelder**, Youth Pastor | **Julia Andela**, Director of Children & Family Ministries

**Ryan Hoskins**, Worship Director | **Terry Stevens**, Director of Adult Discipleship | **Michael Fujimoto**, Facilities Director

**Jill Lowe**, Office Administrator | **Tim Yeager**, Maintenance | **Levi Morris**, Treasurer | **Missy Lair**, Nursery | **Abbey Fujimoto**, Social Media



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