



LIVING HOPE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

From the Pastor...

September 2023 Newsletter

What is the chief end of man?

Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

Some of you folks who grew up in the Presbyterian Church may recognize this as the first question in the Westminster Catechisms. It lays out the purpose of all of humanity in a nice short sentence, with clear language that answers the question of why we are here. The question then becomes, how do you live out this purpose. And over 107 or 196 questions, the Shorter or Larger Catechisms, respectively, lay out what one should believe and do. Even so, the catechisms can't answer every question and some of those questions and answers are up for debate. Additionally, the details of how we live out the purpose of our lives will vary from person to person, based on our gifts and skills, our preferences and temperament.

If we take as the starting point, that we are made by God to glorify and enjoy the divine forever, we need to figure out how we are meant to enjoy and glorify God. To that question there is not one right answer. We can enjoy God in nature, in the people that God has given us as companions, in art and music, in beauty and the diversity of the world that God has created. We can glorify God through praise and worship, through service to others and acts of mercy, through creation of new ideas and structures that encourage abundant life. All of these and more are right answers depending upon what God has put upon your heart and our collective heart as a community.

In the coming months we will be approaching the question of purpose for our adult education series, Purpose After Retirement and Beyond. On September 14th we will look at what is purpose and how it changes over the course of life. September 28th and October 12th will have us creating purpose statements for ourselves that reflect our values, gifts, and passions. On October 26th we will talk in detail about how God is present in our sense of purpose. And finally, November 9th will involve us finding the common threads of our purposes that unite us as a community of faith.

Everyone, no matter their age or connection to the congregation, is invited to join us for these conversations. They will be held at 1pm in the Fellowship Hall and also accessible through the church's livestream and Dickson Hollow's channel 966.

We are indeed called to glorify God and enjoy him forever, but how becomes the question. Let's explore our purpose(s) together.

In Christ,

Purpose After Retirement and Beyond

Our sense of purpose changes. Even so, changing that sense of purpose can be very difficult. It's one of the reasons we see people fail at retirement and go back and find a job; it helps them find a purpose. It's also why people can find it hard to move away from their long-term home and not have those routines and connections that help to ground them with a sense of purpose. Over the years, I've also had a number of older adult members of my congregations tell me, "I don't know why I'm still here," as they reflect on what they are able to do to contribute to the life of the world.

This fall, Living Hope is going to be offering a 5-part class that addresses Purpose Past Retirement and Beyond, where we will talk about some of the hard things that come with reimagining our purpose as life changes. Over the course of those classes, we will explore some of the messages we get about aging and our usefulness, the power of purpose and how we can start to develop a personal purpose statement, how Christians have thought about purpose over the centuries and how that influences how we articulate our purpose, and finally look at how Living Hope can help support the folks in our community in living out that sense of purpose.



Thursday, Sept 14

1-2 pm in Fellowship Hall



Thursday, Sept 28, Oct 12 and Oct 26

1-2 pm in Fellowship Hall



Thursday, Nov 9

1-2 pm in Fellowship Hall

Congregational Conversation

On August 13th following worship, we held a Congregational Conversation to check in with folks regarding a few items. The session was grateful for people’s thoughts and feeling about re-introducing some higher contact elements to our Sunday morning and how people might be willing to facilitate some of those events.

Here are some takeaways that the session heard:

- Flowers on the communion table every third Sunday are greatly appreciated and Worship Committee has approved continuing that.
- There are pros and cons to reintroducing passing of the peace. With the entry into the cold and flu season coming and the increase in COVID cases, we will take this item up in the spring to reevaluate.
- Our congregation has changed (grown) over the last three years - and we may or may not know everyone’s name. Later in September, we will have updated nametags for all regular attendees and ask that you participate by wearing them as we continue to build our community.
- Fellowship time after worship is also a point of concern with cold and flu season, so we will continue to wait on re-instating this and evaluate further down the road.



We appreciate your thoughts and feedback. When things come up, please share your insights with members of session or Will.

FINANCIAL UPDATE - As of July 31, 2023						
				Actual	Budget	Fav/(Unfav) Variance
Total Income - YTD				\$ 84,608.33	\$ 63,931.00	\$ 20,677.33
Total Expense - YTD				\$ 96,186.23	\$ 89,425.00	\$ (6,761.23)
Net Income - YTD July 31, 2023				\$ (11,577.90)	\$ (25,494.00)	\$ 13,916.10
Unrestricted Funds as of July 31, 2023				\$327,559.96		

Wallace Cheatham Memorial Music Performance

The Dr. Wallace Cheatham Memorial Music Performance honors the legacy of a gifted musician, educator, and composer, Dr. Wallace Cheatham. For over fifteen years Dr. Cheatham served as music director at Living Hope Presbyterian Church where he trained and lead the choir, accompanied the congregation and choir, and provided special music. Dr. Cheatham was also a gifted music educator, teaching in Milwaukee Public Schools and training many vocalists through the years. In addition, Dr. Cheatham was involved with many community groups, including The New Jubilee Children's Choir, The New Jubilee Youth Chorale and the African American Children's Theatre. In memory of his gifts and contributions, the congregation of Living Hope Presbyterian Church established a fund to provide an emerging musical artist of color an opportunity to share their gifts and talents with the community of faith and encourage their continued work of bringing beauty into the world.



The second annual Dr. Wallace Cheatham Memorial Music Performance will occur on Sunday, September 17, 2023 during the regular worship service at 10am at Living Hope Presbyterian Church, W156N4881 Lisbon Rd, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051.

The artist this year will be William Toney. William is a Milwaukee native Bass-Baritone, whose passion is using his voice to make a connection with his audience. He just received his BA in Vocal Performance from University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. Some of his past roles include Dr. Falke from the opera Die Fledermaus (Strauss), The Wolf from Into the Woods (Sondheim), Gianni Schicchi from the opera Gianni Schicchi (Puccini), and Coalhouse Walker Jr. from Ragtime the Musical (Flaherty). William has been invited to be a featured guest soloist with groups such as The Racine Symphony Orchestra, The Bel Canto Senior Singers, and the American Gothic Performing Arts Festival. He has had the honor of receiving awards in the 2022 Wisconsin Chapter NATS Vocal Competition. First place in the category of American Negro Spirituals and Third Place in Upper Musical Theatre. You can follow William on Instagram @williamtoneybass.



Peace & Global Witness offering

 PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

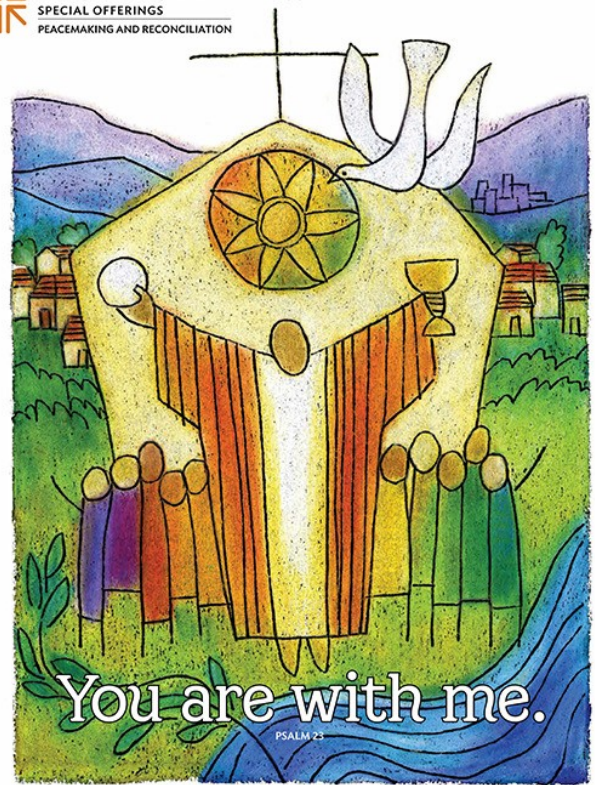


collected on October 1
World Communion

The Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and around the world. Together we are building God's household for peace where everyone is welcome; where all can find compassion, peace and justice.

Our work of peace and reconciliation is supported by gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. These gifts also unite us with Presbyterian peacemakers across the country and the world who are active, not passive; who are doing, not waiting.

We are the peacemakers. We are the Church, Together.



For the Peace and Global Witness month leading up to our offering collection day on October 1, we invite you to pray for the local and global issues each day to bring peace.

September Peacemaking Calendar

Today, I pray for..

- 1) Peace and justice in Ukraine
- 2) Peace between Israel and Palestine in Jerusalem
- 3) Peace for those affected by mass shooting gun violence in the US.
- 4) Peace for those affected by gun violence in the greater Milwaukee area
- 5) Those who work to address gun violence in our community
- 6) Peace and strength for those who experience domestic abuse
- 7) All efforts to end human trafficking
- 8) Peace for all people suffering from natural disasters around the world.
- 9) Peace of mind for veterans experiencing PTSD
- 10) Peace and support for all who consider suicide

....continued....

- 11) Peace and support for those currently incarcerated and their families
- 12) Peace and support for those living with AIDS in the US and in the world
- 13) Peace and support for those living affected by COVID
- 14) Learning and practicing non-violence, within our homes and our world
- 15) The end of child soldiers in all wars
- 16) Enough food to eat for all, those in Milwaukee and those in the world
- 17) Peace at our borders and peaceful and humane immigration procedures
- 18) Peaceful discussions about our global climate
- 19) Peaceful discussions about race in Milwaukee
- 20) Peaceful discussions about race in the US
- 21) Peace and support for those with addictions
- 22) Peace and support for those who are grieving the loss of loved ones
- 23) Peaceful encounters around US politics in the coming year
- 24) Peace and love within our families
- 25) Peace and support for those suffering from mental illness
- 26) Peace and respect between different religions in the world
- 27) Peace and support for those who live on the fringe of society
- 28) Peace for those suffering within the LGBTQ community
- 29) Peace and healing for those affected by cancer and other life threatening diseases
- 30) Peace and centering in our hearts and minds and souls to be able to do the work of God.

We pray for all people in your name...

May today there be peace within

May you trust your highest power that you are exactly where you are meant to be.

May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.

May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.

May you be content knowing you are a child of God.

Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance.

It is there for each and every one of you. Amen.

Adapted from Minnie Louise Haskins



SEPTEMBER 2023



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27 10 AM Worship	28 9:45 AM Bible Study—FH	29	30	31	1 Sept	2
<div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 5px;"> <p>Lisa is on vacation Aug 28 through Sept 4 - no office hours, no remote access. If you need assistance, please contact Will Houts.</p> </div>						
3 10 AM Worship - with communion  Food Pantry Sunday <small>First Sunday of each month</small>	4 No Bible Study Office Closed 	5	6	7 9-12:30 Office Hours 10 am - Worship Meeting	8	9
10 10 AM Worship	11 8:30-12:30 Office Hours 9:45 AM Bible Study—FH	12 6:30 pm Finance Meeting	13	14 9-12:30 Office Hours 1-2 pm Purpose Conversation 	15	16
17 10 AM Worship Wallace Cheatham Concert during Worship - William Toney	18 8:30-12:30 Office Hours 9:45 AM Bible Study—FH	19	20	21 9-12:30 Office Hours	22	23
24 10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Session - AED Training	25 8:30-12:30 Office Hours 9:45 AM Bible Study—FH	26	27	28 9-12:30 Office Hours 1-2 pm Purpose Conversation 	29	30



We are a connectional church...connected in faith to God – Father, Son, Holy Spirit. Jesus taught us that prayer connects us to the Divine...and to each other.

Each month we list our faith community. Every family has a date when we ask you to hold them in prayer.

September Prayer Calendar



Birthdays

Average August Attendance

In person: 46

Zoom/livestream: 6

Total Average Attendance: 52

Food Pantry Sunday

Oct 1

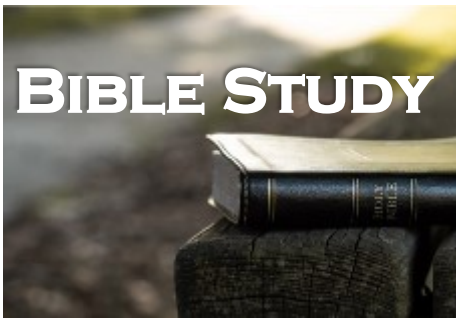
Nov 5



Anniversary Wishes to:

**The Care and Concern of the
Congregation is with:**

Did we miss your birthday or anniversary?
Please let the office know so we can
update our files.



Monday Bible Study

Mondays at 9:45 AM

Join us for a discussion about the coming Sunday's lectionary readings either in-person in Fellowship Hall or watch on Channel 966.

No Bible Study Monday, Sept 4 in observance of Labor Day

Sept 11 Exodus 14:19-31; Matthew 18:21-35 for Sept 20

Sept 21 Exodus 16:2-15; Matthew 20:1-16 for Sept 27

Sept 28 Exodus 17:1-7; Philippians 2:1-13 for Oct 1



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www.LivingHopePCUSA.org



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Administrative Assistant: Lisa Quinn

Email: Office@LivingHopePCUSA.org

Office: (262) 599-8341

Office Hours: Mon and Th 8:30-12:30 (remote email rest of the week)

Clerk of Session: Kathryn Fresch

Treasurer: Steve Sinner

Church Musician: Teresa Ledford

2023 Session Members: Karl Bertram, Michael Brady, Dorothy Dieter, Kathryn Fresch, Curtis MacDonald, Mike McBride and Marcia Sinner

2023 Deacons: (A-B) Tom Tennyson (C-F) Ann Tennyson (G-K) Diane DeBoer – Moderator
(L-O) Cherie Andrus (P-R) Karen Stephan (S-Z) Ken DeBoer