

THE HOPE CONNECTION

NEWS FROM HOPE METHODIST CHURCH

Hello, friends!

Pastor Ian here, and I'm so glad you're here.

Life can get busy. Our minds can get crowded, and sometimes we can go through an entire day without stopping long enough to hear what God is trying to say to us. That's why I want these short devotionals to be more than just a few minutes of Scripture. My prayer is that they become a moment in your day when you can pause, breathe, open God's Word, and allow Him to speak into whatever you're facing.

Each day, we have an opportunity to grow in our faith, draw closer to God, and discover how His Word applies to our everyday lives. Whether you're having a great day, walking through a difficult season, or simply looking for a little encouragement, I want you to know that God has something to say to you today. So take a few minutes, open your heart, and let's discover His Word together.

Philippians 4:6-7 — Replacing Worry with Prayer

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Devotional:

Worry has a way of entering our minds before we even realize it. We worry about our finances, our families, our health, our jobs, our future, and things that haven't even happened yet. Sometimes we replay yesterday's problems while already worrying about tomorrow's. Paul gives us a different way to respond. He says, "In every situation...present your requests to God." Notice that he doesn't say some situations. He says every situation. That means when something concerns us, we don't have to carry it alone. We can take it to God in prayer.

Prayer doesn't mean we pretend the problem isn't real. It means we recognize that the problem is real, but God is greater than the problem. When we pray, we are transferring the weight from our shoulders into God's hands. We are saying, "Lord, I don't know what to do, but You do. I can't control this situation, but You can. I don't know what tomorrow holds, but I know You hold tomorrow."

Paul also tells us to pray with thanksgiving. That's important because gratitude changes our perspective. When we thank God for what He has already done, we remind ourselves that the God who carried us yesterday is still able to carry us today. And then comes the promise: "The peace of God...will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

God doesn't always remove the situation immediately, but He can give us peace while we're walking through it.

Everyday Life

We can use this practically throughout our day:

- When you're worried about money: Pray before you panic. Ask God for wisdom, provision, and discipline.
- When you're worried about your family: Pray for them instead of constantly replaying the situation in your mind.
- When you're facing a difficult decision: Pray for God's direction instead of allowing fear to make the decision for you.
- When someone has hurt you: Take the situation to God before taking it to everyone else.
- When tomorrow feels uncertain: Remember that you don't have to solve tomorrow today.
- When something is outside your control: Give it to the One who is still in control.
- When your mind begins racing: Stop, breathe, pray, and intentionally place the situation back into God's hands.

Spiritual Application

Spiritually, Philippians 4:6-7 teaches us to develop a prayer-first mindset.

Instead of allowing worry to become our first response, we make prayer our first response.

Instead of asking, "What am I going to do?" we begin asking, "God, what do You want me to do?"

Instead of carrying the burden ourselves, we surrender it to Christ.

Instead of focusing only on what is going wrong, we remember what God has already done.

And instead of allowing circumstances to control our hearts and minds, we allow the presence of God to guard them.

The goal isn't simply to have fewer problems. The goal is to learn how to bring every problem into the presence of God.

Simple Reminder for Today

When worry comes in, pray.

When fear rises, trust.

When the situation feels overwhelming, surrender.

And when you don't know what to do, remember that God does.

Application:

Today, whenever anxiety or worry arises, stop and pray. Thank God for what He has already done, tell Him exactly what is troubling you, and consciously surrender that concern to Him. Don't just pray until you feel better—pray until you've placed the burden in God's hands.

Prayer:

Lord, help me to bring my worries to You instead of carrying them by myself. Teach me to pray before I panic, trust before I worry, and surrender before I try to control everything. Thank You for everything You have already brought me through. Guard my heart and my mind with Your peace today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Blessings,

Pastor Ian

2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10am - Bible Recap	2 10am- Class meething Childrens/ youth church @5:30-7	3	4 6:30 am Men's Book Study	5
6	7 LABOR DAY 5 pm -Bible Recap	8 BACK TO SCHOOL HMC 10am - Bible Recap	9 10am- Class meething Childrens/ youth church @5:30-7	10	11 6:30 am Men's Book Study	12 Threads of Faith
13 Mission Cafe hosted by mixed nuts	14 5 pm -Bible Recap	15 10am - Bible Recap	16 10am- Class meething 11-1 Lunch Bunch @ Juan's Childrens/ youth church @5:30-7	17	18 6:30 am Men's Book Study	19
20 12:15 AdBoard Meeting 9am Outreach Meeting	21 5 pm -Bible Recap	22 10am - Bible Recap	23 10am- Class meething Childrens/ youth church @5:30-7	24	25 6:30 am Men's Book Study	26
27	28 LifeLine Screening 8am-5:30 companion meeting @6pm 5pm -Bible Recap	29 10am - Bible Recap	30 10am- Class meething Childrens/ youth church @5:30-7			

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

8 BRAYDEN PERKINS

15 ADAM BEAVER

16 WYNN WILSON

19 DIANA KEITH

23 JIM TYSON

24 ELLA LAFFERTY

JOHN DAVID

MONTGOMERY

26 JUNEANNE PRICE

28 REBECCA WASSON

29 LEON PRINCE

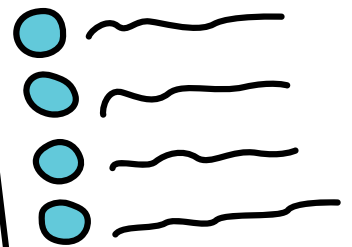
SEPTEMBER EVENTS

13th - Mission Cafe Hosted by Mixed Nuts Class. @9am

20th - Adboard meeting @ 12:15

-Outreach meeting 9am

Data



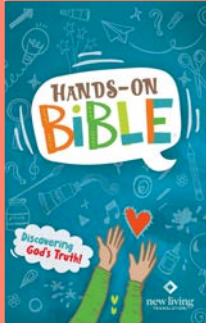
Help us Support the Banner of Hope

Companion is collecting papertowels & toilettissue.

Please place your generous
contributions on the shelf in
the fellowship hall labeled
Banner of Hope.

Thank you for your kindness and support!

CHILDREN'S NEWS



3rd - 5th Grade Bible Presentation

Sunday, September 27, 2026
during Service of Worship

Kids receiving Bibles:

Emerie Formby & Rory Richardson

If you have a child or grandchild who is entering the 3rd-5th grades and they have never received a Bible, please let Amy Miller know so we can order them one.

FALL FESTIVAL MEETING SUNDAY, SEPT. 13

The Children's Team will meet in the Pairs & Spares class immediately following the Service of Worship to start planning this year's Fall Festival. Anyone is invited to come and help plan this community based event. Bring your ideas!!

Fall
FESTIVAL

3rd Annual Fall Festival
Sunday, October 18, 2026
4:00 - 6:00 pm

Food, fun, games, bounce houses, pony rides, and more

PUBLIC INVITED - BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

SEPTEMBER MISSION PROJECT

Youth & Children will be preparing "birthday pans" to give to Hope in Action. These pans will include a cake mix, frosting, a can of soda (you can make cake with soda instead of oil and eggs), candles, birthday decorations, a birthday card, instructions to bake the cake with the soda, and information regarding the church so they may visit.

YOUTH NEWS

HMC YOUTH

PARENT & YOUTH MEETING

Wednesday, September 2, 2026

5:30-7:00

YOUTH ROOM

ALL PARENTS AND YOUTH ARE ASKED TO PLEASE ATTEND!

SEPTEMBER MISSION PROJECT

Youth & Children will be preparing "birthday pans" to give to Hope in Action. These pans will include a cake mix, frosting, a can of soda (you can make cake with soda instead of oil and eggs), candles, birthday decorations, a birthday card, instructions to bake the cake with the soda, and information regarding the church so they may visit.



RETREAT

Oasis Retreat - November 2026

Camp Caudle in Hector

November 13th -15th

PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING THIS FUN WEEKEND

Fall retreat will be with other Methodist churches from the Arkansas area.



COOKBOOK

Coming This Fall!

We are starting a church
cookbook!

Please gather up your favorite
recipes
and get ready to share them.

For more
information please
call: Cathryn Looney
@ 979-229-7899

Let's Get
COOKING

Drop-off location to be announced soon!



LIGHT FROM THE WORD

"He Calls; Do you answer?"

"Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.."

-Heb. 4:7

You are sitting at home, the phone rings, the caller ID says "Unknown, Important Call." Do you answer? Most people will let it go to voicemail, but then the unknown caller may not leave a message. Now what do you do? Most of us would probably ignore and forget about the call and move on with our plans for the day, perhaps even relieved that we didn't mistakenly take a call from a telemarketer or a scammer. In a world where we can usually see who is calling, this uncertain moment is anxiety-inducing for most people. Since the caller didn't leave a message, you may just assume it was unimportant. But what if the call was an emergency, or they were trying to give you some life-changing news? We never know when God is going to reach out to us or the means he will use. His call is for you to grow in your relationship with him and to enter into his rest. Relationships are a two-way street, and a relationship with God is no different. We will have opportunities to answer the call, but we have to soften our hardened hearts first. When we are willing to accept the call, even if it is from a previously unknown number, we may hear God's life-changing message.

- Jayson McGraw

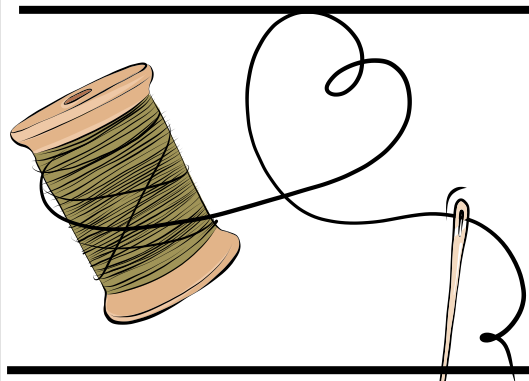


ANSWER THE CALL AND LET CHRIST IN.



Let's Be Healthy Together!

September 28th 8AM- 5:30PM



Threads of Faith

Will meet September 12



**Lunch Bunch September 16th 11-1 @
Juan's**

Companion Meeting

September 28th @ 6PM

The Speaker will be
Ashley Herron



FINANCES

THANK YOU FOR GIVING TO HELP SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF HMC!



AUGUST ATTENDANCE & TITHING

August 2

Attendance- 112 Tithe-\$7,391

August 9

Attendance- 98 Tithe- \$6,330

August 16

Attendance- 106 Tithe- \$6,450

August 23

Attendance-102 Tithe- \$9,060

PASTOR'S FUND

Any money placed on the altar rail on Communion Sundays is allocated to our pastor's fund. This money is used for helping individuals/families in need at the discretion of our pastor.

WE MAKE GIVING EASY!



Text "Hope Church" to 73256 using your mobile device or scan this QR code with your phone's camera!

Pastor's Fund: Any money placed on the altar rail on Communion Sundays is allocated to our pastor's fund. This money is used for helping individuals/families in need at the discretion of our pastor.

HOPE METHODIST CHURCH

2300 South Main Street
PO Box 400
Hope, Arkansas 71802
870-777-8816
hopemethodistchurch@yahoo.com
www.hope-methodist.com

Worship with us each Sunday!
9:45- Sunday School
10:50- Traditional Worship

PRESCHOOL NEWS

We are excited for school to start very soon! Our teachers have worked hard to get their rooms set up and they've been busy meeting parents and students! School will begin on Tuesday, September 8 and we ask that you please pray for our teachers and families as they get started! It's going to be a wonderful year!

-Jessica Beaver



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