
HOPE HEADLINES

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Randy's Ramblings

I have a friend who has a cabin she lets me use on occasion. The cabin is small, but functional, with a deck overlooking a pond.

To get to the cabin, you drive through cattle grazing land, over a two-rut driveway that leads from a gate at the road to another gate near the cabin.

The first time I went to the cabin, I followed the two-lane path until I came to a place where the path split. I took the left path and found out why there was another path. A pothole had developed. Nancy tells me they tried to fill the pothole, but it came back; so they started driving around it. But every once in a while, they take the wrong path like I did. Sometimes they simply forgot about the pothole, or a cow was in the way and forced them to land in the pothole. It was nice to know I was not the only one who landed in that pothole.

I think grief is a lot like that pothole. We can try to fill it up ... by keeping busy, or by self-medicating, or by trying to replace whatever we lost with something else. But the pothole will return. Eventually, we learn to "drive around it." But every once in a while, we follow the familiar path and return to the pothole, or something pushes us into the pothole unexpectedly. And I have found that everyone has a similar experience.

We tend to hit the pothole a lot in the early phases of grief, but over time, we are less prone to land in it. I still hit a pothole when I remember my mother who died 10 years ago. It doesn't slow me down like it did at first, and I don't fall into that pothole nearly as often as I did in the early years. When our daughter Melissa died in June, I found that for the first month it was hard to go a full day without landing in a pothole. Sometimes it was a picture. Sometimes it was sitting on the couch where she sat. Sometimes it was seeing a puppy (she always loved puppies). Images, sounds, memories would come to mind and I would begin to weep. It still happens frequently, but less often than it did at first. And I know the day is coming when I will replace the pothole with fond memories and smiles more often than I find my eyes filled with tears as I miss her smile.

Some of us know when we will experience those potholes. Birthdays and holidays are times we will expect it to happen. But I also know people who tell me they "hit

a pothole" when they were writing a check to pay a bill. There was no way to anticipate that sudden memory, but there it was.

I want you to know that "hitting a pothole" is a normal and natural part of grieving. And I can assure you the day will come when you realize you've learned to drive around them. The memories will continue to exist, but they will bring joy, fulfilling the promises given to us in Psalm 126.

--Randy Quinn

Why a Whale logo? When I first fully understood my call to ministry, it was through the story of Jonah who was avoiding a call to preach and ended up in the belly of a fish. The third chapter of the book begins with the same exact call from God as the opening of the book. Word for word the same. This time Jonah accepts the call and goes. The playful image of the whale represents the humor I always sense in the way God called me out of the belly of a submarine, even as I was avoiding that call. At Hope, the whale also reminds me of the sense in which God has called me, yet again, to go to a foreign land.



The Kansas MDS (Mennonite Disaster Service) Unit is sponsoring a Learning and Service trip to Jennings Louisiana, January 28-

February 4, 2023. Participants will leave on Saturday traveling to New Orleans, staying overnight, learning about long term recovery from disasters and visiting Laura Plantation on Sunday. Your cost will be one night lodging, two tours we will take and meals on the days we travel. MDS is covering the transportation, meals and lodging while on the MDS project in Jennings. We will be rebuilding homes with MDS from Monday through Friday. To make your reservations or for more information contact Cleo Koop at cleohkoop@gmail.com or call 316-282-0797.



Library News

The Discipleship Commission and Library Committee want to thank all of you who filled out the library survey. Your participation and input have helped with decisions regarding the library. Here are a few general takeaways from the survey. The committee will continue to add current and updated resources, especially from the categories that were most widely used and requested. Thank you to those who mentioned specific authors and titles. There will be continued efforts to increase usage and checkout of materials, by publicizing new acquisitions as well as highlighting books on specific themes or genres on a table in fellowship hall. The committee will work on creating an online resource where you can search for materials by author, title and subject. There was great affirmation regarding the proposed children's nook and look for that addition in early 2023. You are invited to double-click on the icon to see the results of the entire survey, including comments.



Church Library Survey
results 2022.pptx

BOOK REVIEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

A copy of Marvin Zehr's autobiography has been donated to our library and is on the periodical shelf for you to check out. Marv is our founding pastor along with Jeannie, his wife, and father to Karen Zehr, who is a member of Hope. Even those of us who were here during his pastorate and think we know his history may be surprised at stories of his growing up years and all the impactful positions he has held in Mennonite circles. His service here is largely responsible for there being a Hope Mennonite Church in Wichita.

SEASON OF LIFE

Written by Jeffrey Marx, a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, who tells about Joe Ehrmann's transformation from former captain of the Baltimore Colts to a pastor and volunteer coach of a high school football team. Marx was a ballboy for the Colts when he first meets Ehrmann. When he meets up later in life with his idol from childhood, he chronicles Ehrmann's story about suffering a great loss and how it has changed him and challenged him to teach young men a whole new meaning of masculinity through the game of football. There is a retelling of many exciting football games but the major

emphasis is on how the players are given leadership examples of empathy, integrity and living to serve others. This book found in "Biographies" was donated by former pastor Doug Luginbill.

LIFE GOES ON and JUST SHY OF HARMONY

These are two volumes of a set of three written by Philip Gulley, a Quaker minister, author, and husband, and father. This is purely fun reading of exaggerated (we hope) tales about being a minister for the small-town Quaker church, Harmony Friends Meeting, in Indiana. They are quick reads and hard to put down.

There are some really quirky church members whose outrageous ideas and big egos the pastor has to deal with. One wonders if these are based on real people the author has known in his assignments. Here's a quote from the Arkansas Gazette "A quiet but insistent affirmation of compassion and forgiveness endows these books with the genuine spirit of the Gospels".

From the Library Committee

Adult Sunday School news

Randy Quinn, our interim pastor, will be leading our adult Sunday School class November 13 & 20 and December 11 & 18.



November Reminders...

November 6

Worship L-Lori M.
Scripture-Lee
Pianist-Vicki

Song L-Lowell
Tech-Scott
Zoom Host-Brenda

November 13

Worship L-Lori M.
Scripture-Donna B.
Pianist-Ruthie
Song L.-Galen
Tech-Mike V.
Zoom Host-Lee

November 20-Choir sings

Worship L.-Lowell
Scripture-Margaret
Pianist-Laurie
Song L.-Trae

Tech-Randy P.
Zoom Host-TBD
Guest Speaker-Tonya
Ramer Wenger

November 27

Worship L.-Jim V.
Scripture-Margaret
Pianist-Amy
Song L.-Lowell
Tech-Michelle J.
Zoom Host-TBD

Sanctuary Prep

November 6-Heidi J.
November 13-Connie
November 20-Lori M.
November 27-Ruthie

Nursery

November 6-Justin & Tiffany
November 13-Shelby & Tyler
November 20-TBD
November 27-TBD

Preschool SS Helpers

November 6-Alison
November 13-Jared
November 20-Renetta
November 27-NO SS

SS Superintendent

November 6-Delaine
November 13-Cynthia
November 20- Cindy
November 27- NO SS

Coffee

November 6-Mike & Kim
November 13- Chris B.
November 20-Marcus & Cynthia
November 27-NO Coffee


Mowing

November 6-Travis
November 13-Jim B. Fall Festival Saturday
Schedule ends after November 13.



NOVEMBER

November 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 10:00am Women's Bible study 7:00pm Melissa H-zoom w/Worship Commission	2 7:00pm Choir	3 7:00pm Women's Bible study	4 Tyler & Shelby Kaufman	5 Sandwich Saturday 3:00pm Ted & Company
6 Peppernut baking after worship	7	8 10:00am Women's Bible study 7:00pm Melissa H-zoom w/leadership 7:00pm Worship	9 7:00pm Choir	10 Renetta Gooden 7:00pm Women's Bible study	11	12 9am-2pm 
13 Noon-PCRC-in Library Fall Festival lunch after Sunday School	14	15 7:00pm Worship	16 7:00pm Choir	17 Myron Regier 7:00pm Women's Bible study	18 Margaret Wiebe	19 2-8pm Reserved Event
20	21	22 6:30pm Vision Council 7:00pm Melissa H-zoom w/ Vision Council	23 5:30pm Deacons 7:00pm Choir	24 Katie Chlunsky 	25 Marcus Loganbill	26
27	28	29 7:00pm Melissa H-zoom w/congregation	30 7:00pm Choir		Church offices closed Thursday/Friday	