



MERRY CHRISTMAS

THE ANCHOR

IN THIS ISSUE

A New Year

by Pastor Scott Martin

There is something holistic about starting a new year. The events of the year prior are easily contained and labelled under a number. No other month, no other day during the year allows so much freedom to compartmentalize.

From a counselling perspective, it is dangerous to too quickly compartmentalize good or bad events. Working through healthily all of 2017 from a personal level allows true health in 2018. This applies to our church as well.

For example, during the fall of 2017 Jeff and Jared Jobes spent numerous hours transitioning our finances from a very expensive program to a much more efficient and transparent program. It would be foolish of them to ignore what happened in 2017 without any change. Instead, with wisdom and numerous hours planning, they transitioned. Much thanks to both of them specifically.

Having an acoustic service for the Fall allowed for greater choice in worship and style as well. I personally love worshipping with a small group at 9am in a "family" style versus the large church at 10:30. The success

and growing pains of this first service will continue in 2018. How foolish would it be to ignore 2017 and scrap that time to worship God together?

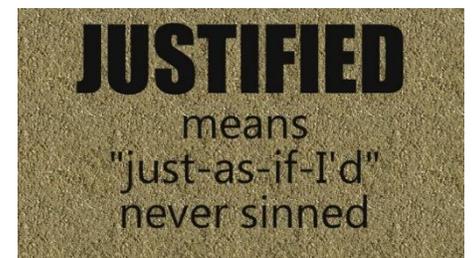
What is specifically challenging and exciting in my vision is the opportunity for ministry growth in 2018. As Chris Timson, the new Director of Discipleship will start in February, Hope will likely continue to look upon our successful past in doing ministry in the present while strategically investing resources to **bring people into a closer relationship with Jesus.**

As you reflect upon your own new year, what areas do you need to learn from in 2017? Have you too quickly compartmentalized the past?

Before analyzing, I would also add a huge note of importance from Scripture. Throughout the Bible, there is a mark of Justification when one truly puts their faith in Jesus Christ. This *Justification* is the point where one is transformed instantaneously. "The old is gone, the new is here" is the way that one my favorite Bible translations relates the experience. So, when analyzing our New Year, we must pause and take note

Wednesday night's start up, Sunday morning educational classes, Haiti Missions, January Calendar

that we can truly move past the past and into the present relationship with Jesus Christ. As you look back to your 2017 and years prior, take courage as you head into 2018 that Jesus will guide you, transform you, and Justify you as a new person in the new year.



Justification

jus-ti-fi-ca-tion
,jəstəfə'kāSH(ə)n/Subminoun

THEOLOGY
the action of declaring or making
righteous in the sight of God.

Wednesday Night Children

by Breanna Peterson

Who doesn't love a good treasure hunt? Seeking adventure, digging up a treasure, gaining your fortune? The Bible shows us that the greatest treasure we can ever unearth is what comes from seeking God and his kingdom!

Preschool through fifth grade are invited to join us from 6:15 -7:30pm for nine weeks starting Wednesday, January 10th. Children will dig into His Word through bible stories, crafts, games, music and more!



Sign up on-line at

<http://www.hopechurchlincoln.org/children.html>

or in the atrium!

Looking for ways to serve at Hope Community Church?

Would you like to be the hands and feet of Jesus? Pray and consider volunteering in children's ministry and helping the littlest of his kingdom. Contact Breanna: children@hopechurchlincoln.org for more information!

Youth

by Hayden Florum





Wednesdays

6:15 PK-MIDDLE SCHOOL

7:00 YOUTH DINNER AND HIGH SCHOOL

7:30 PK-MIDDLE SCHOOL ENDS

8:15 HIGH SCHOOL ENDS

JAN 10
4700 S Folsom
hopechurchlincoln.org
MAR 21

Sunday Children

by Julie Wondercheck

Hopeland Worship:

Sunday Mornings during the 10:30 service children, 3yrs-3rd grade, will be invited and dismissed from the adult service to worship and learn about God's great love in an active way! We will sing, dance, experience bible stories actively, create crafts, and play games related to the lesson. We welcome your child to come worship with us! We are excited about God's great love at Hopeland Worship and want to share it with you!

Hopeland will start up again next Sunday, January 7th

Nursery Schedule:

Discipleship Hour 9:30 (arrive at 9:00)

January 7: Bailey Svoboda or Kate Bohrer

January 14: Bailey Svoboda or Kate Bohrer

January 21: J'Marie Hansen

January 28: Lindsay Burkey

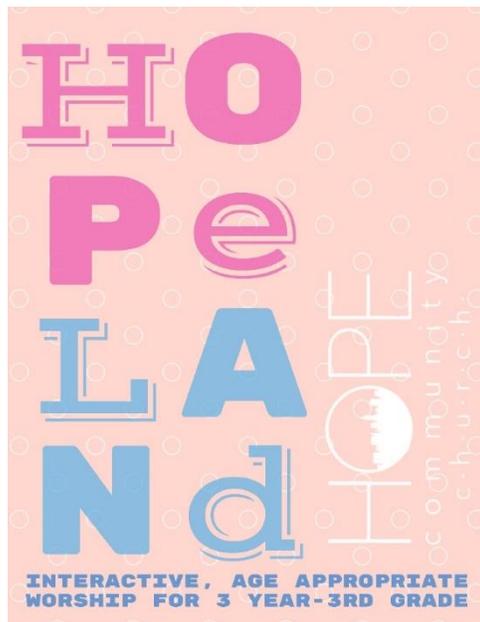
10:30 Worship Service (Arrive at 10:15)

January 7: Linda Elder, Aleni and Adi Stoakes

January 14: Melissa and Sienna McLachlan

January 21: The Morgan's

January 28: Carissa Martin and Anna Jobes



Sermon Series

by Pastor Scott Martin

I love the book of John. It's the book I recommend over all others to be the first when you read the New Testament. As a church on Sundays we will spend 4 months analyzing the book and end—

fittingly—on Easter Sunday. John has a wealth of biographical information about Jesus and his disciples. More importantly, John is a masterpiece of theological writing. If you enjoy theology...come Sundays at both 9 or 10:30 to delve into the book of John.

DEAR JOHN

Sermon series on the book of John and rekindling that relationship with Jesus.

12.31.17 -- 4.1.17



Center for People in Need

by Linda Rutz

Thanks to all who have volunteered for the Toyland for Tots on December 9! Hope's vision is to connect with our community and no better way than to serve those at such an event like this!



Haiti

by Marlys Freese and Hannah Reeves

10,000 thanks for all who donated to children in Haiti through the month of November. To the right are many of the children who were blessed by Hope's giving work! All the children's photos will be on our website at hopechurchlincoln.org Click on "Missions" tab.



Christmas Eve

by Pastor Scott Martin

Many people should be thanked for their great work on Christmas Eve! IT was an unbelievable night of worship—and a "White Christmas"!



- Marlys Freese
- David Freese
- Matt Osmond
- Jackson Wondercheck
- Rachel White

Thank You

Cup of Hope

Love that cup of joe on Sunday morning? Not sure you could make it through the long sermons without a boost of caffeine? Is an essential part of your existence smelling coffee?

The coffee you drink on Sundays is more than just a nice perk of church. It also is a ministry that is directly connected to Hope's mission in Haiti. Every dollar donated by the spouts of deliciousness goes towards that ministry. If you are interested in bags of coffee, even a portion of those proceeds go to Haiti.



Birthdays!

Analisa Lenhoff Andy Unterseher Ruby Russel	1.1
Saraya Burkey Anna Jobes	1.4
Linda Van Engen	1.6
Kate Liesveld Nathan Waltz	1.8
Rachel White Sara McCullough Bruce Jacoby	1.9
Shelby Krueger Todd Scott Nathan Wilkinson Arlene Geiger	1.10
Joanne Vanderheijden Jack Moore	1.11
Brett Peterson	1.11
Scott Morgan Dave Beukelman	1.13
Ella Wemhoff	1.14
Cal Van Engen	1.15
Connie Rood	1.16
Becky Unterseher Jon Freese Bill Jordan Cecily Liphardt	1.17
Tayva Burkey Faith Cech	1.18

Rhianna Golebiewski	1.19
Kirk Summers Jim Sandbulte	1.20
Sam Armstrong Stephanie Guzman	1.21
Kendra Morgan	1.23
Evelyn Loof	1.25
Kami Wemhoff	1.25
Twan Vanderheijden	1.26
Marietta Eckel	1.28
Doug Ivey Zayne Zimmerman	1.29



"IT'S WHEAT-FREE, DAIRY-FREE,
FAT-FREE, NUT-FREE, SUGAR-
FREE AND SALT-FREE...ENJOY!"

Women's Bible Study

by Carissa Martin

Hello church family!

The Women of Hope will be resuming women's bible study, open to any women who are post-high school!

We will be studying "Finding I Am" by Lysa TerKeurst.

Description: What is the deep cry of your heart? The ache in your soul that keeps you up at night? The prayer you keep repeating? Jesus not only cares about this deep, spiritual wrestling, but He also wants to step in and see you through it.

Join Lysa TerKeurst on the streets of Israel to explore the seven I AM statements of Jesus found in the Gospel of John. Through this interactive, in-depth study we will be trading feelings of emptiness and depletion for the fullness of knowing who Jesus is like never before.

Features:

- Leader helps to guide questions and discussions within small groups
- Five weeks of personal study segments to complete between six weeks of group sessions
- Four days, with an optional fifth day, of study within each week of personal study

Benefits:

- Find freedom in difficult circumstances by learning how to shift from "slave mentality" to "set free mentality"
- Discover how Jesus is the key to satisfaction by learning the crucial significance behind each of His I AM statements
- Trade feelings of emptiness for the fullness of knowing who Jesus is
- Grow in biblical literacy with this exploration of the Gospel of John

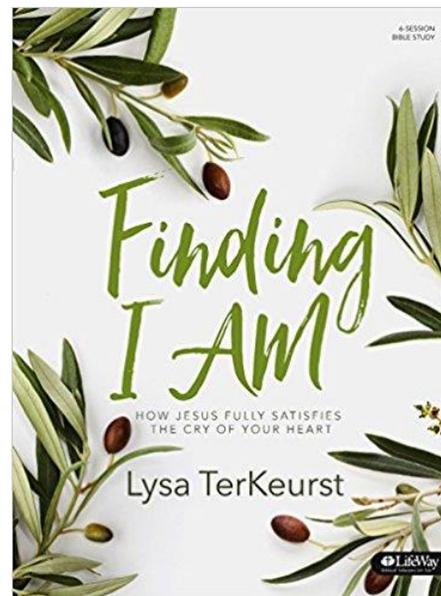
January 7th: Brunch & Conversation (If you are new to the study- just come! Don't worry about bringing anything!)

January 14th: First Session!

The study will run through April 15th.

Cost: 20\$ (approximately) Please contact the church office if a scholarship is needed.

Please contact Carissa Martin ([402\) 499-7881](tel:4024997881) or Sheila Svoboda ([402\) 450-8255](tel:4024508255) for more information!



Financial Peace University

by Kirk Summers and Doug Ivey



Join Hope as we delve into a 9-week class on Financial Peace starting January 22nd. Dave Ramsey's famous course will develop budgeting, resolve debt, and increase positive communication into your financial life.

The cost will be between \$50-\$75 for course materials. The course will run on Monday nights from 6:30-8:30pm coinciding with Hope's RIP program. This isn't your "average" course, as it will challenge you to be more mindful and kingdom minded with your financial resources.

Greeter Schedule

by Kevin Loof

Jan 2018	TIME SERVICE	GREETERS	WELCOME CENTER (NAME TAG TABLE)	HOST TEAM
7	9:00	Mel & Nancy Harms	Evelyn Loof	Loof Team Chip & Holly Romjue Mel & Nancy Harms Dale & Connie Rood Cal & Linda VanEngen
	10:30	Pam, Rod, Alex Wismer Dale Wismer	Bev Wismer	
14	9:00	Diane Essink Tony Geiger	Arlene Geiger	Beukelman Team Tony & Arlene Geiger Twan & Joanne Vanderheiden Diane Essink Roger & Shirley Vanderbeek Tom & Karen Mouw Barclay
	10:30	Tom & Karen Mouw Barclay Twain & Joanne Vanderheiden	Arlene Geiger	
17	9:00	Bill & Linda Elder	Valerie Marhenke	Svoboda Team Bill & Linda Elder Ron & Judi Bouwens Bill & Audrey Jordan Matt & Alana Osmond
	10:30	Bill & Audrey Jordan Ron & Judi Bouwens	Valerie Marhenke	
24	10:30	Perry Keys	Ruth Keys	Keys Team Ric & Ranae Stokes Linda Rutz Jim Sandbulte Rick & Dianne McNeese
		Rick & Dianne McNeese Ric & Ranae Stokes	Ruth Keys	

January Calendar

With the church being short staffed the month of January, it is important to call ahead to make sure Pastor Scott will be available at the church, 402-423-8855.

Church Rentals, Hope Church Calendar of Events

Jan 2018 (Central Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 10:30am - Worship 12pm - Elder/Geiger	1 New Years Office Closed 6pm - RIP @ Atrium,	2 6pm - Scouts	3	4	5 8pm - Student Ministries Overnighter	6
7 Communion New Consistory 9am - Acoustic Worship 9:15am - Education 10:30am - Worship 12pm - Elder/Geiger	8 9am - Voice Program	9 9am - Voice Program 6pm - Scouts	10 9am - Voice Program 6:15pm - Hope Nights	11 9am - Voice Program 9:30am - Zaycon Fresh 6pm - Consistory	12 9am - Voice Program	13
14 9am - Acoustic Worship 9:15am - Education 10:30am - Worship 12pm - Elder/Geiger 12pm - Waltz baby	15 Anchor Deadline 9am - Voice Program 6pm - RIP @ Atrium,	16 9am - Voice Program 6pm - Scouts	17 9am - Voice Program 6:15pm - Hope Nights	18 9am - Voice Program	19 9am - Voice Program	20
21 9am - Acoustic Worship 9:15am - Education 10:30am - Worship 12pm - Elder/Geiger	22 Martin Luther King Jr. Office Closed 6pm - RIP @ Atrium, 7pm - Nebraska	23 9am - Voice Program 6pm - Scouts	24 9am - Voice Program 6:15pm - Hope Nights	25 9am - Voice Program	26 9am - Voice Program	27
28 9am - Acoustic Worship 9:15am - Education 10:30am - Worship 12pm - Elder/Geiger	29 9am - Voice Program 6pm - RIP @ Atrium,	30 9am - Voice Program 6pm - Scouts	31 9am - Voice Program 6:15pm - Hope Nights	1 9am - Voice Program	2 9am - Voice Program 10am - Zaycon Food	3

Important 2018 Dates:

- 2-5 Chris Timson first day
- 2-10 Consistory Visioning Day
- 3-29 Maundy Thursday Potluck
- 3-30 Good Friday
- 4-1 Easter
- 4-13 Classis Meeting
- 5-6 Lincoln Marathon

People City Mission

It's cold outside, and there are people in Lincoln who don't have a warm home. Fortunately, you can serve the homeless by distributing food on the heated People's City Mission shuttle! Hope sends volunteers on Mondays from 10-11 AM, and we would love to add more to our team! No commitment necessary and you can volunteer as much or as little as you want. If you feel called to directly serve others and be there to see the fruition of your efforts, this is a fantastic opportunity. One couldn't express how grateful they are to have us serving them.

Staff

Scott Martin	Lead Pastor
Hayden Florum	Worship and Youth Director
Julie Wondercheck	Sunday Children's Director
Breanna Peterson	Wednesday Children's Director
Jared Jobes	Financial Technician
Chris Timson	Director of Discipleship starting February 5