



EASTER IS COMING!

THE ANCHOR

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Youth Mission Trips, March Events, Easter Preparation!

Easter Preparation

by Pastor Scott Martin

I was talking to an anonymous pastor at an anonymous conference and was surprised as we were chatting about responsibilities how much he disliked Easter. The phrase that really got under my skin was when he said something to the effect, "Easter causes me so much work and stress, I'd just like to skip it this year".

Yes, Easter is the "stressful" season of work at a church. It is like Black Friday for Best Buy, Husker Game Day for the Haymarket restaurants, and Ramadan for persons of a Muslim faith. But, in all those comparisons, Easter is different.

What this pastor failed to recognize is that as Christians our entire existence is based upon Jesus rising. Consider the following: ***What if Jesus didn't rise?***

The disciples would've continued on their normal lives, living in anonymity.

The first generation of converts which changed the fabric of culture from multiple Greek and Roman gods

would've continued never would've converted.

Two thousand years of history would've never happened as it has, and our perspective on life and death wouldn't have been shocked.

Easter is **THE** event which changed the course of humanity, and eternity. We believe He is risen, and because of that we live transformed lives. Or do we? My friend the pastor didn't have that perspective. He saw more work. Just like the Best Buy employee or server at the restaurant they see the moments that are largest as something bad.

I pray that Hope would never see Easter in this light. In fact, we should see Easter as the culmination of our faith expression in a yearly climax. Easter should be the time when we are most expressive, most excited to share what we believe and celebrate with others what we believe.

Currently I am excited that numerous people in our church are considering displaying their faith through baptism on Easter. What a wonderful climax of our belief in a single event!

For others, Easter is the one time they come to church in the year. I lovingly call these persons "CE" Christians as they usually come to church twice a year, on Christmas and Easter.

I want Hope and Easter to be a time where no matter why we are coming, we come celebrating the one who gives us reason for life and reason for joy. Reason for Hope.

We will have three services again with numerous opportunities to worship the week prior as well. Bring a friend or family along as we worship our Risen Lord!

Pastor Scott



RISEN

EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 1

SUNRISE SERVICE ON
THE HILL

7:30AM

MEN'S GROUP BRUNCH

8:30AM

WORSHIP SERVICE AND
EASTER EGG HUNT

9:00AM

WORSHIP SERVICE AND
EASTER EGG HUNT

10:30AM

We have a Maundy Thursday potluck on the 29th at 6pm

We will have a Good Friday Service on the 30th at 7pm

Discipleship Update

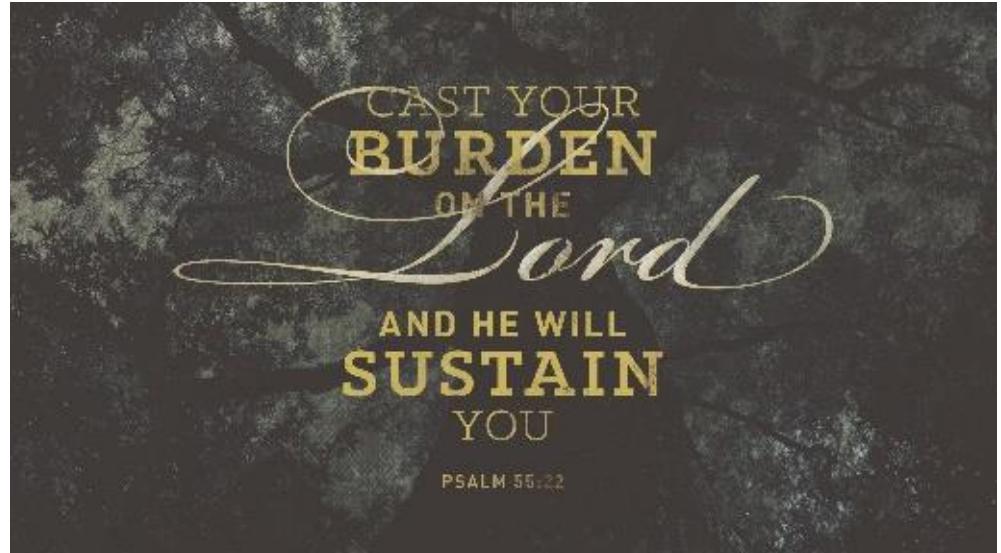
by Chris Timson

Hello Hope! Chris here - your Director of Discipleship AKA "that new guy". As my first entry in the newsletter I thought it would be appropriate to talk about my favorite book in the Bible- the book of Psalms.

I know what you're thinking? Psalms...? C'mon Chris, at least pick something in the New Testament (Jesus is watching...) I know, I know Psalms isn't the most exciting or "theologically important" book in the bible, but it is something every follower of Christ should read.

Have you ever had a feeling in your heart that you couldn't describe or name? I have found that often those inexpressible feelings are only realized when a favorite song is played, exciting chapter is read, or breathtaking scene is watched. That idea of expressing the inexpressible is what the psalms do! The psalms are the words of the all-too-broken human heart and they have the ability to bring the soul of a person into words. They can express our innermost feelings when we don't quite know what to say or how to say it. Our innate brokenness is why over half of the verses in the book can be said to be psalms of lament.

Not all of the psalms are lament and, of course, life isn't always hard. It is important that those times of joy be celebrated and God should be praised, but life is often hard and sometimes life is just down right unbearable. So what is the point of



all this- why would God choose to include so many passages of despair in His great anthology? The psalms teach us the human life is fragile and hard, but also beautiful and full of redemption. God wants us to know that sometimes it's okay to be sad, to feel like there is no hope, and most importantly that it's okay to cry out to Him and that He will listen, comfort, and redeem that pain. In every pain there can be praise and comfort.

Psalms 44

23 Awake, Lord! Why do you sleep?
Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever.
24 Why do you hide your face
and forget our misery and oppression?
25 We are brought down to the dust;
our bodies cling to the ground.
26 Rise up and help us;
rescue us because of your unfailing love.

Thanks for listening to me ramble. I look forward to serving with and alongside all of you in the years to come.

-Chris

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:
children@hopechurchlincoln.org **for more information!**

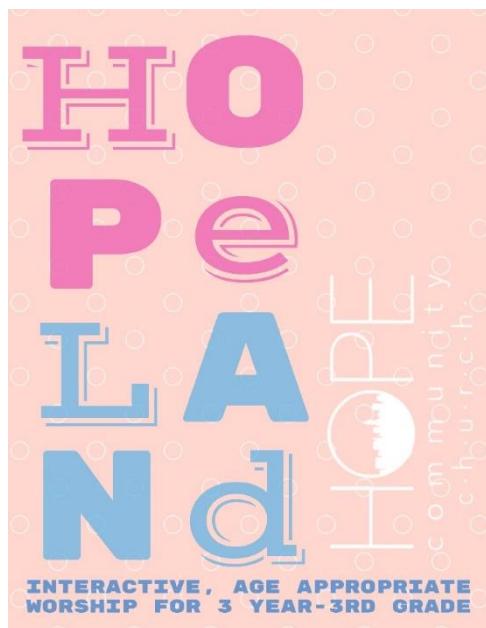
Sunday Children

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:

9:00 Worship Service (Arrive 8:55)

**March 4, 2018: Bailey Svoboda & Kate Bohrer
March 11, 2018: Bailey Svoboda & Kate Bohrer
March 18, 2018: J'Marie Hansen
March 25, 2018: Lindsay Burkey**

10:30 Worship Service (Arrive 10:15)

**March 4, 2018: Anna Jobes & Faith Petersen
March 11, 2018: Linda Elder & Jasmine Allen
March 18, 2018: Melissa and Sienna McLachlan
March 25, 2018: Alana Osmond, Aleni and Adi Stoakes**

Hopeland Worship (10:30- dismissed from adult service before sermon)

**March 4, 2018: Sydney Worley, Bailey Svoboda, Bob Johnson, Rylee and Brett Zimmerman
March 11, 2018: Julie Wondercheck, TBA
March 18, 2018: Julie Wondercheck, TBA
March 25, 2018: Sydney Worley, TBA**

DEAR JOHN



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

12.31.17 -- 4.1.17

Youth Mission Trips

YOUTH TRIPS

MIDDLE SCHOOL

IMMERSE

JULY 26-
JULY 1

\$250

IMMERSE IS AN EXPERIENCE ON UNDERSTANDING HOW TO SERVE YOUR "NEIGHBOR", WITHOUT LEAVING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD! STUDENTS WILL ENGAGE POVERTY IN SAFE ENVIRONMENTS AND TRULY MAKE AN IMPACT ON THE CITY!

IMMERSE PARTNERS WITH OUR SISTER CHURCH, "F ST. NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCH"

Scholarships are available, and fundraising will be available this spring. There will be a "fun" option added to the end of the trip, TBA. It will be an awesome immersion experience!

TRIP MONEY DUE MAY 1

YOUTH TRIPS

HIGH SCHOOL

REFUGEE AND URBAN PLUNGE

JULY 13-15 \$125 IMMERSION IN YZIDI AND MUSLIM REFUGEE POPULATION IN LINCOLN. LEARN HOW TO SHARE YOUR FAITH!

JULY 15-18 \$150 SET UP A REFUGEE APARTMENT IN OMAHA FROM START TO FINISH. SERVE THE POOR IN DES MOINES, IOWA AND LEARN HOW THEY LIVE AND HOW TO BEST HELP. ADVENTURELAND AT THE END!

Scholarships are available, and fundraising will be available this spring. You have the option of going on the full trip, or either half. It will be an awesome cross-cultural experience and truly impacting people with the Gospel!

TRIP MONEY DUE MAY 1

Youth

by Hayden Florom

Come out to dinner on these nights and a portion of the sales go towards our Youth Mission trips!



RIP & Financial Peace

by Kirk Summers and Doug Ivey

Be praying for the various inmates who enter into Hope's doors on Monday night. Hope is excited to teach Financial Peace University to predominantly these inmates as part of their curriculum. Hope will continue to be a place for all peoples of all backgrounds, as we warmly welcome these men into a closer relationship to Jesus and help them transition from being incarcerated to living a life free from debt and free from prison!



March Calendar

Church Rentals, Hope Church Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25 9am - Acoustic Worship 9:15am - Education 10:30am - Worship	26 9am - Voice Program 6pm - RIP @ Atrium,	27 8am - Zaycon Food 9am - Voice Program 6pm - Scouts	28 9am - Voice Program 6:15pm - Midweek 6:30pm - Hope	1 9am - Voice Program	2 9am - Voice Program	3
4 9am - Acoustic Worship 9:15am - Education 10:30am - Worship	5 9am - Voice Program 6pm - RIP @ Atrium,	6 9am - Voice Program 6pm - Scouts	7 9am - Voice Program 6:15pm - Midweek	8 9am - Voice Program 6pm - Deacon & Elder 7pm - Consistory	9 9am - Voice Program	10
11 Communion	12 NO VOICE PROGRAM--LPS SPRING BREAK	13	14	15	16	17 8am - ESU Rental Cara
Daylight Savings 9am - Acoustic Worship 9:15am - Education 10:30am - Worship	6pm - RIP @ Atrium, 5pm - Cowboy Chicken 6pm - Scouts 6:30pm - West A	5pm - Scouts	6:30pm - HOPE MOVIE	Anchor Deadline 4pm - Zaycon		
18 9am - Acoustic Worship 9:15am - Education 10:30am - Worship	19 9am - Voice Program 10am - Zaycon Delivery 6pm - RIP @ Atrium,	20 9am - Voice Program 6pm - Scouts	21 No Midweek 9am - Voice Program 6:15pm - Youth Service	22 9am - Voice Program	23 9am - Voice Program	24 4pm - Church rental
Palm Sunday 9am - Acoustic Worship 9:15am - Education 10:30am - Worship 2pm - Court of Honor	26 9am - Voice Program 5pm - 5 Guys Youth 6pm - RIP @ Atrium,	27 9am - Voice Program 6pm - Scouts	No Midweek 9am - Voice Program	29 9am - Voice Program 6pm - 6:00pm Maundy	30 7pm - Good Friday	31

Important Dates

- 3-14 Family Movie Night (6pm) Popcorn included!
- 3-29 Maundy Thursday Potluck (6pm)
- 3-30 Good Friday Service (7pm)
- 4-1 Easter
- 4-11 All Church Serve and Pizza Night (6pm)

- 4-13 Classis Meeting
- 5-6 Lincoln Marathon
- 5-13 Mother's Day
- 5-20 Graduation Sunday
- 5-27 Memorial Day

Greeter Schedule

by Kevin Loof

TIME	GREETERS	WELCOME CENTER	HOST TEAM
		(NAME TAG TABLE)	
4	9:00	Kevin Loof	Evelyn Loof Loof Team Chip & Holly Romjue
			Mel & Nancy Harms
10:30	Pam, Rod, Alex Wismer Dale Wismer	Bev Wismer	Dale & Connie Rood Cal & Linda VanEngen
11	9:00	Diane Essink	Arlene Geiger Beukelman Team Tony & Arlene Geiger
		Tony Geiger	Twain & Joanne Vanderheiden
10:30	Tom & Karen Mouw Barclay Twain & Joanne Vanderheiden	Arlene Geiger	Diane Essink Roger & Shirley Vanderbeek Tom & Karen Mouw Barclay
18	9:00	Bill & Linda Elder	Valerie Marhenke Svoboda Team Bill & Linda Elder
			Ron & Judi Bowens
10:30	Bill & Audrey Jordan Ron & Judi Bouwens	Valerie Marhenke	Bill & Audrey Jordan Matt & Alana Osmond
25	9:00	Perry Keys	Ruth Keys Keys Team Ric & Ranae Stokes
			Linda Rutz
10:30	Rick & Diane McNeese Ric & Ranae Stokes	Ruth Keys	Jim Sandbulte Rick & Diane McNeese

Other Announcements



**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
MARCH 15TH 6:30 PM
ALL AGES WELCOME**



Lincoln: 3/23-3/25 or Omaha: 4/6-4/8



location:	Lincoln Cornhusker/Omaha Hilton
group name:	RUSHMAN
contact:	Brooks & Angie Rushman 402 483-2592 or 402 416-9781 arushman@yahoo.com
to register:	go to weekendtoremember.com



If you would like to make donations for Easter Lilies to brighten up Hope Community Church on Easter, be on the lookout in your bulletin in the coming weeks!

