



470 Winter Street Ext.  
Troy, NY 12180  
(518) 283-1372  
[www.HOPELC.ORG](http://www.HOPELC.ORG)

We are a community empowered by the Holy Spirit, called to bring God's comfort, to work for God's justice, and to share the hope and love of Jesus with all.

## August 2024 Newsletter

**Reviving Hope's  
Choir**

*~ info. on pg. 4*

**Red Cross  
Blood Drive**

*~details on pg. 9*

**Letter from  
Our Treasurer**

*~ see pg. 5*

### **Our Core Values**



*faith  
acceptance  
compassion  
gratitude  
love*

Pastor's



Page

The above picture was taken at the garden I visited while on vacation. Perhaps this flower is familiar to you, but I've never seen a black sunflower before. Stunning was the word that popped into my brain—an “Unexpected Reality,” I thought. One of the things that has occurred to me lately is that life is chock full of “Unexpected Realities.” Human beings like to think of themselves as living normal lives until a crisis occurs. Yet between the normal activities of life and life crises is another reality. A reality that usually surprises us or is unexpected. Such as when I happened upon this beautiful black sunflower. During such instances we are reminded of God's love of diversity and the spirit of God's presence throughout all of creation. Yet I would be remiss if I didn't mention the fact that “Unexpected Realities” can be both positive and negative. Too often, for instance, I see a mother with a young child walking down the street. Her total focus is on her cell phone; it being clear to any observer that this child is being ignored. I sometimes see this with fathers as well. I am always disturbed by this “Unexpected Reality.” But just as I see God's fingerprints when looking at that black sunflower, I find myself stopping and praying in that moment that God's love be with that child and awaken the parent to the gift of their child, whose hand they now hold. Yet I know in this moment that God holds this child's hand as well. God helps us to see all the realities in our midst, but good and bad. God is not just with us in our normal days, or just with us in our crisis moments, but God's Spirit rejoices with us in the “Unexpected Realities” which pepper our days.

May your days be filled with “Unexpected Realities” of joy.

Pastor Pamela



## Breakfast Is on Us – Update!

During July, our Hope congregation collected breakfast foods -- cereal, granola bars, pancake mix, mini-pastries, etc. -- for the two food pantries we support. Breakfast foods are in high demand during the summer months when the kids are out of school and don't have access to free breakfasts.

We outdid ourselves! We started with one table and quickly had to add a second, and when that was full, we brought out the wheeled cart from the kitchen and filled that up too! The folks at Doors of Hope (West Sand Lake) and CoNSERNS-U (Rensselaer) were very grateful for our help.

Many thanks to all those who contributed.



## HOPE Gives Wayne a Fine Send-Off

Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup> was both a happy and sad day as we bid farewell to our organist and music director, Wayne Mizerak. Following a worship service full of wonderful music - a Bach prelude, a hymn sing, an ensemble of Wayne (piano), Dave (guitar), Pam (accordion) and Wayne's grandson Mason (bass), in addition to the liturgy and hymns - Wayne was feted at a lovely luncheon attended by 40 of our members including his wife, Carol, and daughter, Lisa Barber. There was great food and TWO delicious chocolate (Wayne's favorite) cakes, (one made by Nancy Clarkson replete with musical embellishments that was eaten to the last crumb!) Congregation members signed cards and individual thank you notes also and congregation president, Marilyn Dyer, presented him with a card and gift from the church family.

Thank you to everyone who participated in making Wayne's send-off a gift of love. Wayne is retiring to pursue other interests including travel, golf (of course), time with family and to write more music! We wish him every measure of happiness as he looks forward to this new chapter in his life and we thank him wholeheartedly for his musical contributions to our services of worship and praise to the Lord. God speed good and faithful servant!







## **Let's Revive Our Choir**

**Starting in September  
Sing once a month**

**Songs selected will not be complex**

**If interested, please contact Greg  
Whitney at (518) 951-0414**

**Lydia has agreed to accompany the  
choir on the piano**



[www.hopelc.org](http://www.hopelc.org)

Greetings Hope Family,

Over the last 2 months we have been discussing the need to replace our 62-year-old boiler.

With over \$5,000 in repairs for our boiler last year, it is the leadership's plan to replace the boiler in October 2024.

We have created a building fund to try to raise \$15,000 for this expected expense.

We have started off with a campaign to raise funds in three different ways:

1. Bring your extra change to church
2. Bring your returnable bottles/cans to church (we get 6 cents each)
3. Donate through a QR code or by writing a check

There has been some interest in wanting to contribute but not being able to do so at this point. To accommodate this request, we have created a pledge sheet specifically for the boiler replacement fund.

If you have already donated to this fund, thank you. If not, please consider what role you can play in this expense for the church.

To date, we have raised almost \$7,000. We still need another \$8,000 to meet our goal.

If by October we have not met our goal, funds will be taken out of our investments. If funds are received after the installation of the boiler, money taken from investments will be replaced.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Questions can be directed to me.

Greg Whitney, Treasurer

*The forms are on the next page (6) for your convenience.*



Use this QR  
Code to Donate

## Building Fund

Trusting in God's grace and willingness to provide, I/we joyfully pledge to share the following gifts in support of the installation of a new boiler at Hope Lutheran Church.

**How Given? - Please Check One Box Below**

☐ One-Time Pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ 3-Month Pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Expected Amount of Pledge  
by the end of December \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Copy**



Use this QR  
Code to Donate

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**Church Copy**



## August 2024

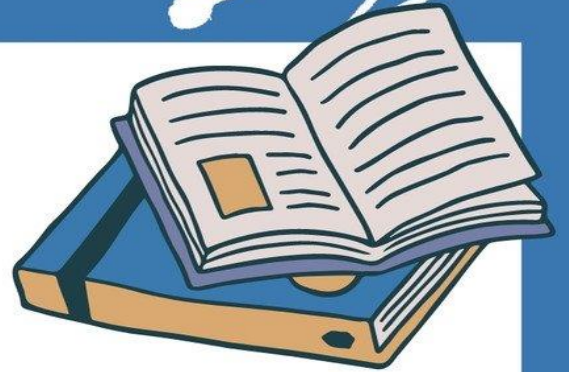
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1 Lucas Boyer	2 Lisa Boyer	3 Dan Churchill	4 Ciji Churchill
5 Harper Churchill	6 Bailey Churchill	7 Judy Cosgrove	8 Bill Cosgrove	9 Marilyn Dyer	10 Charmanika Gamage	11 Luke Morello
12 Gerd Rieker	13 Judy Rieker	14 Diane Middleton	15 Linda Hunter	16 Cynthia Winter	17 Diane Cornell	18 Eleanor Smith
19 Steve Radzinski	20 Susan Radzinski	21 Kevin Willis	22 Anna Lisa Hafgren Willis	23 Janis Zipkin	24 Dale Zipkin	25 Maureen Hoffmann
26 Lydia Calebro	27 Sebastian Schomer	28 Kevin Churchill	29 Melissa Churchill	30 Emma Churchill	31 Irene Tumlin	

EACH MONTH WE LIST NAMES FOR YOUR DAILY PRAYERS. EVERYONE IN OUR COMMUNITY BRINGS UNIQUE GIFTS FOR OUR MISSIONARY JOURNEY. OUR PRAYERS SUPPORT THEM IN THEIR DAILY LIVES. (A REMINDER...THESE ARE NOT PRAYERS FOR HEALING.)





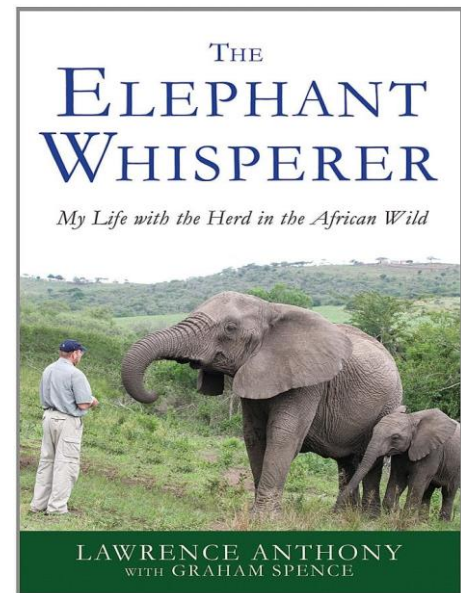
# HOPE'S



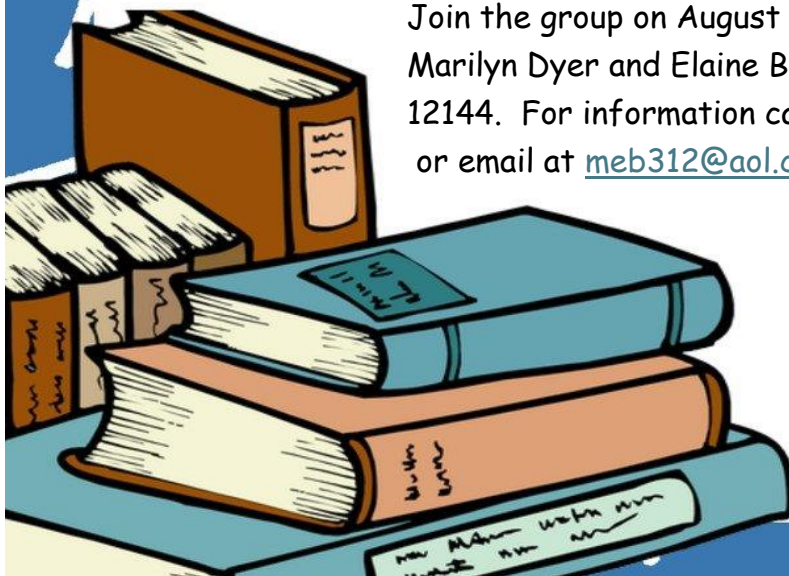
## BOOK GROUP READS ABOUT ELEPHANTS – August 13, 2024

When South African conservationist Lawrence Anthony was asked to accept a herd of 'rogue' elephants on his Thula Thula game reserve in Zululand, his common sense told him to refuse. But he was the herd's last chance of survival — dangerous and unpredictable, they would be killed if Lawrence wouldn't take them in.

As Lawrence risked his life to create a bond with the troubled elephants and persuade them to stay on his reserve, he came to realize what a special family they were, from the wise matriarch Nana, who guided the herd, to her warrior sister Frankie, always ready to see off any threat, and their children who fought so hard to survive.

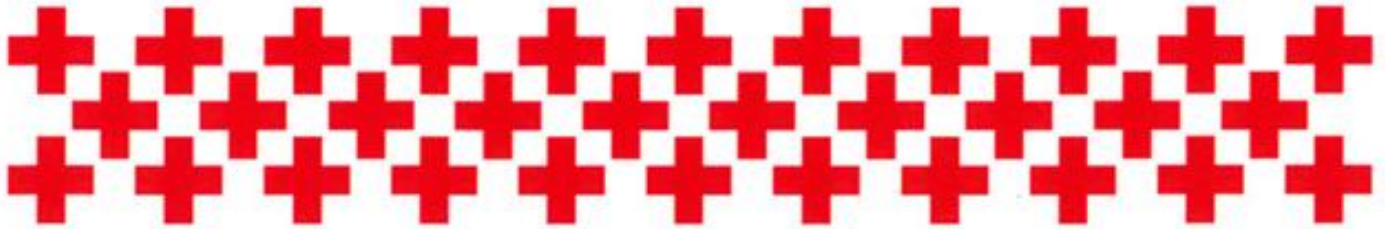


Join the group on August 13, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at home of Marilyn Dyer and Elaine Berg, 47 Deerhaven Lane, Rensselaer 12144. For information call or text Pr, Elaine at 315-882-3732 or email at [meb312@aol.com](mailto:meb312@aol.com).



## American Red Cross

*Give blood.* Help save lives.



### **Blood Drive** **Hope Lutheran Church**

470 Winter Street Ext., Troy, NY 12180  
Sanctuary

**Saturday, August 17, 2024**  
**8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

To schedule your appointment, please call 1-800-REDCROSS,  
visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org), or, download the free Blood Donor App. Use sponsor  
**keyword: hopelutheran**



Scan to be directed to  
RapidPass®

**Donors needed! Come give blood in August for \$20  
Amazon.com Gift Card by email. See [rcblood.org/Help](http://rcblood.org/Help)**



Scan to schedule  
an appointment.



# Worship Volunteer Duties for AUGUST of 2024

Please find your own replacement if you cannot be available on date of assignment.

	4-Aug	11-Aug	18-Aug	25-Aug
	Worship 10:00am	Worship 10:00am	Worship 10:00am	Worship 10:00am
Altar Guild/ Comm. Asst. 2	Maureen H	Mike D (CA2 only)	Charlie H	Debbie F
Greeter	Nancy C	Anna-Lisa H	Nancy D	Sandra G
Usher	Cindy W	Dickie D	Peggy F	Chamanka G
Assisting Minister	Karen C	Cindy W	Janis Z	Marilyn D
Communion Assistant	Donna S	Chris N	Bonny M	Marilyn D
Snack Set-Up / Clean-Up	Charlie H	?	Charlie H	Marilyn D
Offering Counters	Nancy C & Cindy W	Pam D & Anna-Lisa H	Charlie H & Bonny M	Marilyn D & Cindy W



# Upcoming Events for August of 2024

We will have 'In-Person' Sunday Worship Services at 10:00 AM. We will also continue to stream our services on our website, YouTube page, and Facebook page.

*Sharing the hope and love of Jesus with all*

<p><b><u>3<sup>rd</sup></u></b></p> <p><b>Regional Food Bank Packing</b> 10:30 AM – Noon Meet at RFB</p>	<p><b><u>4<sup>th</sup></u></b></p> <p><b>Hope's Prayer Team meets in the small classroom following worship service</b></p>	<p><b><u>9<sup>th</sup></u></b></p> <p><b>Hope's Dine-Out Dinner Group</b> @ 6 PM</p>
<p><b><u>13<sup>th</sup></u></b></p> <p><b>Hope's Book Club</b> @ 7 PM with Marilyn at her home</p>	<p><b><u>17<sup>th</sup></u></b></p> <p><b>Red Cross Blood Drive</b> 8 AM to 1 PM</p>	<p><b><u>21<sup>st</sup></u></b></p> <p><b>Council meeting</b> @ 6:30 PM in the large classroom &amp; via Zoom</p>
<p><b><u>22<sup>nd</sup></u></b></p> <p><b>Grief Support Group</b> @ 6:30 PM in the sanctuary</p>	<p><b><u>22<sup>nd</sup></u></b></p> <p><b>Worship &amp; Music Committee meeting</b> @ 6:30 PM in the large classroom</p>	<p><b><u>Summer Bible Study</u></b> Thursdays @ 6:30 PM with Pr. Elaine at her home</p>

