

Community/Fellowship

May my lips overflow with praise for you
teach me your decrees. – Psalm 119:171

Dinners for 8

Would you like to establish and deepen relationships with others at Hope on a social level? "Dinners for 8" is designed to bring people together in a casual setting around something we all enjoy doing – eating! Sign up outside Lounge by September 13. Meeting dates and times to be determined. Contact: Tom Fraser

Hope Book Club

This group reads and discusses books that nurture and reflect our spiritual life. A list will be posted outside the library and on Hope's web site, www.hopetoledo.net. Meets fourth Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m. Leader: Ginger Bopp

Service/Outreach

"I am your servant, give me discernment."
Psalm 119:25

Altar Guild

This Group meets for fellowship, study, prayer, instruction on altar preparation and setting the communion table. Individual members are responsible for weekly preparation, clearing and delivery of altar flowers to hospitalized and shut-in members. Meets first Saturday of the month, 9:30 a.m. Leaders: Pat Braun and Linda Moulton

Dirty Dozen

The Dirty Dozen is a group of volunteers of all ages who get together to do various gardening and landscaping around the church and our rental houses. Come when you can, and please bring your tools! Meets one Saturday a month, 8:30 a.m. - noon

Domestic Mission Team

This Team seeks to bring hope to those whose homes have been devastated by natural disasters through construction and rehabilitation services. Locations have included Biloxi, Miss., and Orange County, Texas. Our next trip is scheduled for November 2009. Meeting dates and times to be determined. Leader: Fred Bretzloff

Haiti Mission Group

This team meets throughout the year to plan, support and field a team going to Ouanaminthe, Haiti, usually in March. The team is comprised mainly of medical and dental professionals. Those with other skills are also welcome. Meeting dates and times to be determined. Leader: Ted Braun

Harvest Ministry

This ministry serves our Hope family by providing home cooked meals to those in times of need. Leader: Nancy Salsbury and Freda Baum

Healing Ministry

The Healing Team meets for Bible study and planning of Healing Services held quarterly for those desiring spiritual healing through prayer, laying on of hands, anointing and communion. In addition, laying on of hands and prayer for those in need is offered the first Sunday of the month. Ministry team meetings are bi-weekly, 6:30 p.m. Leaders: Helen Kunze and Bob Beers

Hospitality Ministry

This group of volunteers arranges for the coffee and donuts we enjoy between services each Sunday and coordinates meals for Hope's special events. Leader: Ashley Scharfenberg

Serving Meals at the Cherry Street Mission

Hope has committed to serve dinner for guests at the Cherry Street Mission twice each month. Volunteers meet at Hope and carpool to the Cherry Street Mission Madison Street Food Service & Community Center, 1919 Madison. Serve on the second and third Saturday of each month, 4:30 - 6 p.m.

Mental Health Ministry at Hope (MHMH)

This group is dedicated to supporting all those impacted by mental illness and to use education to erase the stigma that may be associated with mental illness. Meets fourth Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m. Leader: Carol Meuser

Welcoming Teams

Friendly greeters with warm smiles are needed during our worship services on Sunday mornings. Volunteers serve on a rotation schedule approximately once a month. Leaders: Dick & Sandra Melton

Small Group Studies

Blessed are they who keep and seek him
with their hearts. – Psalm 119:2

"A Case for Faith" Book Study

Lee Strobel's book will help participants grapple with the most difficult questions attributed to faith in God, for example: "If God is love, then what about all the suffering in our world? If Jesus is the door to heaven, then what about the millions who have never heard of Him? If God cares for everyone, then why does He eternally torture some in hell?" For skeptics, Strobel, a former atheist, provides compelling evidence for dealing with these intellectual barriers; and for Christians, he instills confidence in defending their faith. Everyone will benefit from reading this book and discussing its contents in a safe environment with friends. Meets Wednesdays, 7 - 8:30 p.m., beginning on September 30 for 6 weeks. Leader: Judy Patberg

Be Still

We must concentrate on knowing God: the more we know Him the more we want to know Him. – Brother Lawrence.

Take some time with others in the middle of a busy week to pause, be still and learn to better know God. This group will use the Bible and devotional materials from many spiritual giants who can help us bring quiet, peace, contemplation, reflection and silence into our very noisy worlds. New members welcome at any time. Meets Wednesdays, 5:15 - 6:45 p.m., for 6 weeks, beginning date to be determined. Leader: Bill Tarr

Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP)

An effective spiritual renewal process which calls together members of the congregation in order to experience personal conversion and Christian community in the environment of our own congregation. Women's retreat is January 30 & 31, 2010. Leaders: Stephanie Eby & Kim Evans. Men's retreat is February 13 & 14, 2010. Leader: John Eby

Connections

Connections is a group of spiritual friends who seek to strengthen their connection to God and to each other through informal studies, sharing and supporting our growth in faith, praying for each other and encouraging each other to fulfill God's purpose for our lives. All are welcome to walk with us. No experience needed. Meets the second Thursday of each month, 7 p.m., at the Mulligans home. Leader: Marian Mulligan

Couples Groups

These groups consist of four or five couples who agree to meet together for study and relationship building. Each group determines the resources they will use. Sign up if you are interested in filling any openings in existing groups or would like to be part of any new group that forms. Meeting times are determined by the group.

Crown Biblical Financial Study

The Crown Biblical Financial Study for Life Groups is an in-depth study of what scripture teaches us about money and possessions. Life Group Members have confirmed that marriages are being strengthened and individuals are finding their way out of debt. They are also becoming consistent savers, generous givers and prudent consumers. Most important, people are entering into a closer relationship with Jesus. Crown Financial has been teaching money management and Biblical generosity for more than 20 years. Please bring your Bibles and \$55 for materials. Meets Mondays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., for 10 weeks, beginning September 21
Leaders: Chris Rowe and Ron Pettaway

Experiencing God

Want to know God more intimately? Want to go beyond scratching the surface of the scriptures? God is inviting you to experience Him in an intimate love relationship through which He reveals to you His will, His ways and His work. Through the biblical principles in this study, God can teach you how to know when He is speaking to you; adjust your life to Him and His ways; and, identify what He wants to do through you. The text we will use is *Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God* by Henry T. Blackaby
Meets Tuesdays, 6:45 - 8:15 p.m., September 22 thru May 25 in the church library
Leaders: Constance Schultz and Don Blakeman

Feasting on Prayer

Are you hungry? Do you sometimes feel empty but food does not fill you? Our souls as well as our bodies need to be fed. Prayer is food for the soul. Come explore different styles of prayer such as lectio divina, praying our experiences and contemplative prayer. Prayer is not "one type fits all." Each of us speaks and listens to God in different ways. No experience needed. All are welcome. Nursery available.
Sundays 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., beginning November 1
Leader: Marian Mulligan

Gospel of John Studies

This is a weekly study of the Book of John. Each week there are questions to answer and there will be discussion of those questions.
Meets Tuesday, 9:30 am., and Monday at 7 p.m.
Leader: Diane Kalb

Grace: An Invitation to a Way of Life

These Bible studies on grace will help you make the connection between grace as a remote Biblical concept and grace as a lifestyle you experience every day. Discussions will revolve around the Bible and will utilize a study guide written by John Ortberg in the "Pursuing Spiritual Transformation" series.
Meets Mondays, 7 - 8:15 p.m., for eight weeks, begins September 28
Leader: Pastor Tom Fraser

Parenting Group

As a follow-up to the "Help I'm A Parent" series held on Sunday evenings in September, this group will explore topics including "Allowing Kids to Fail," "Teaching Kids Responsibility" and more.
Meets Mondays, 7 p.m., for three weeks, beginning September 28
Leaders: Annette Collier and Amy Rowe

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Start your Thursday discussing a selected book of the Bible, always looking for the "so what?" and seeking to find practical, everyday applications of the Scriptural text. This is not a lecture class, but one in which everyone shares insights into the lively and challenging book we call The Bible. Currently reading Exodus
Meets Thursdays, 7 - 8 a.m.
Leadership is shared by a number of longtime members of the group.
Contact: Dean Meinke

Tuesday Adult Formation Group

This ongoing group has used various texts and materials as vehicles for our journeys. Our fall topic will most likely be "Spirituality and Resilience."
Meets Tuesday 9/8, 9/22, 9/29, 10/13, 10/27, 11/10, 11/17 and 11/24, at 7 p.m. at the Bretzloffs.
Leader: Margaret Bretzlöff

Women of Faith Bible Study

Women of all ages and experiences share their wisdom, love and passion for God with each other. This group is always open to new participants at the beginning of each new study.
Thursdays, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Leader: Brenda Gibson

The Woodlands Study

The Bible study group is currently studying the Gospel of John, and meets at the Woodlands conference room, located behind the Sunset House on Indian Road.
Meets Mondays, 1 p.m.
Leader: Diane Kalb

Many of the books utilized in our small groups are available at the Seeds of Hope Resource Center.

Sign-ups for all Small Groups will be in the family Lounge on Sunday, September 13 and 20, or you may call the church office, (419) 536-8383 or e-mail office@hopetoledo.net



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Hope's Small Group Ministry

-Fall 2009-

Hope Lutheran Church invites you to connect with God and others, encouraging and equipping you along your spiritual journey, so the world will be changed.