

THE HOPE MESSENGER

Bagley~Bayard~Cooper~Dawson~Linden



Greetings everyone,

I hope everyone is doing well.

It is that time of year. The weather is getting colder. Halloween, church conferences, election, and time change are upon us. The smell of turkey, evergreens, Advent, Christmas, and New Years to come. This has been one of the most unusual years we have been a part of.

Usually we are filled with the hope of joining family and friends for meals, parties, ball games, and more. But this year we wonder if we can even come together safely. We have concerns about what is “safe” and about doing the “smart” things. We disagree as to what those things are. We disagree with authorities and institutions whose main jobs are to keep us safe, because we feel we know better or we don’t want to conform for whatever reason. That is our choice.

Our goal should be to make the best choices for all.

In the last newsletter I talked about Job and the trials he faced and how God blessed him for being faithful and always trusting God.

As we look through the Bible, over and over again we see people, communities and even churches that decided they knew better than God. And over and over again earthly wisdom never changed or succeeded over God’s plan.

How do we know what God wants of us or His plans for us? We don’t have the prophets of old to give us God’s messages. We don’t see or hear angels to lead us through God’s plans. The only way we can understand God’s plans for us is by getting closer to him. And the only way we do that is by praying, Reading His word, meditating on the word, and listening. Sometimes the hardest thing to do is shut out the noise of the world and listen. To know God’s plan for us we have to listen for that still small voice that the world and our busyness tries to drown out.

Lately many of us have had more time on our hands, not by choice. I would like to ask if during those times, did you allow the world to drown out that quiet voice? Or did you take time trying to hear God and understand his plans for you. I have had times of distractions and times close to God. In our world and lives it can be difficult to stay close to God and hear His voice.

I pray that you can find a time and a place to get closer to God.

I pray that the coming year will be better.

And I pray that I and hopefully you also will listen to God and follow His plans for our lives and future.

May you have a blessed holiday season and a better New Year.

Be safe and wise.

Pastor Gary

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Message from the Pastor	1
Advent Bible Study 2	
Hanging of the Greens	3
Bagley News	4
Bayard News	4
Linden News	5
Parish Calendar	6
Budget 2021	7
Parish Council	8

Pastor Gary is planning an Advent Bible study by Zoom this year. He will have more information to come on this later.



MISSION FOCUS.....

Each church for the month of November/December can pick a local mission they would like for their Mission Focus project. Some examples might be: Food Drive, Adopt-a-family, Mitten Tree etc.....



REMINDER

PLEASE remember your local food pantries. This is the busiest time of the year with the holidays and your donations will be very welcome!



Hanging of the Greens Services

What is a Hanging of the Greens Service?

The Hanging of the Greens is a service for the first Sunday in Advent. It is based on the English tradition of decorating the home with wreaths, garlands, a Christmas tree, and evergreens for Advent and Christmas. In a church setting, it readies the sanctuary (and church members) for the season. Some churches use the morning worship time or have a special service, to sing and learn about the symbols we decorate with. Mark your calendars for these special services or fellowship times to prepare your church for the season.



Worship Services

- Bagley** – November 29th at 10:30 a.m. worship
- Cooper** – November 29th at 9:30 a.m. worship
- Dawson** - November 29th at 8:00 a.m. worship



Decorating

- Linden** – Sunday November 22nd following Church Service
- Bayard** - Sunday November 29th during Church Service

Please feel free to attend the service most convenient to your schedule

<i>Bagley</i>	<i>Bayard</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>Dawson</i>	<i>Linden</i>
Dec 24	Dec 24	Dec 24	Dec 23	Dec 24
8:00 pm	5:00 pm	6:00 pm	7:00 pm	8:30 pm



Celebrate the birth of our Messiah! With the many different family gatherings for Christmas, you are invited to choose one of the Hope Parish Christmas Candlelight services that best works for you and your family.



Bagley United Methodist Church

402 Main St. – Bagley, IA 50026
Sunday Worship 10:30 am



Dates to Remember:

- Nov. 8–Ad Board Meeting 11:30 am
- Nov. 15 – 9:30 am Fellowship
- Nov 29– Hanging of the Greens
- Dec. 13– Ad Board Meeting
- Dec. 20 – 9:30 am Fellowship
- Dec. 24 – 8:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

Hanging of the Greens
Sunday November 29th
10:30 am



Bayard United Methodist Church

502 t. – Bayard, IA 50029
Worship 9:00 am

Serving our Church in November

Date Greeters

- 11/1 Don and Carolyn Schwartz
- 11/8 Jill Albright and Jerry Knobbe
- 11/15 Don and Norma Olesen
- 11/22 Phyllis Brown and Lori McGivney
- 11/29 Deb Smith and Karen Henson

Serving our Church in December

- 12/6 David and Valorie McCool
- 12/13 Joan Mantz and Shirley Phelps
- 12/20 Dean and Sandi Robertson
- 12/27 Jill Albright and Lori McGivney





Linden United Methodist Church

106 N. Evans – Linden, IA
Sunday Worship 8:45 a.m.
Dottie Hill, Newsletter Reporter

No Administrative Board meeting in December, Also, was looking ahead, no Sunset Circle meetings in January, February or March.



November 22, 2020

Remember these dates:

Nov 1 – Daylight savings ends
Nov 11– Veterans Day
Nov 15 – 9:45 am Ad Board Meeting
Nov 18 - 7:00 pm Sunset Circle
Nov 22 - Decorate following church service
Nov 26 – Happy Thanksgiving

December – No Ad Board Meeting
Dec 16 – 7:00pm Sunset Circle
Dec 24 –Christmas Eve
Dec 25 – Merry Christmas
Dec. 31 – New Year's Eve



Parish Calendar

November 1		Daylight Saving Time Ends—Fall Back
November 7		Thanksgiving Ingathering @ Greenfield UMC
November 8	9:00 am 11:30 am	Dawson Ad Board Meeting/Fellowship Bagley Ad Board Meeting
November 11		Veterans Day!
November 15	9:30am 9:45 am	Bagley Fellowship Linden Ad Board Meeting
November 18	7:00 pm	Sunset Circle
November 22		Linden Decorate after Church service
November 26		
November 29	8:00 am 9:00 am 9:30 am 10:30 am	Dawson Hanging of the Greens Bayard decorate during Church Service Cooper Hanging of the Greens Bagley Hanging of the Greens
December 11		NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
December 13	9:00 am 11:30 am	Dawson Ad Board Meeting/Fellowship Bagley Ad Board Meeting
December 16	7:00 pm	Sunset Circle
December 20	9:30 am	Bagley Fellowship
December 23	7:00 pm	Dawson Candlelight Service
December 24	5:00 pm 6:00 pm 8:30 pm 8:00 pm	Bayard Christmas Eve Service Cooper Christmas Eve Service Linden Christmas Eve Service Bagley Christmas Eve Service
December 25		Merry Christmas

Merry
Christmas!

Hope Parish Budget	2021 Budget
Pastor's Salary & Benefits	
Gary Hansen	23,175.00
Continuing Education	500.00
TOTAL Pastor Salary & Benefits	\$23,050.00
Parish Operation	
Pulpit Supply \$200.00 a rotation	6,000.00
Visitations \$187.50 twice a month	4,500.00
Secretarial Wages	4,160.00
Secretary SS/Medicare	350.00
Travel Expense - (.54/mile)	5,600.00
General Supply	500.00
Copier Lease	2,500.00
Office Equipment & Repair	0.00
Postage	75.00
Internet Service \$50 to Julie for home internet	660.00
Annual Conf. (\$300/each)	600.00
Continuing Ed (Laity)	0.00
Parish Programs	0.00
TOTAL Parish Operations	\$24,945.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$48,620.00
Minus projected carry over this year-\$6700.00	\$41,920.00

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2020
 Bagley United Methodist Church 7:00 p.m.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - was approved as submitted
TREASURER'S REPORT- was approved as submitted

OLD BUSINESS & REPORTS

- 5TH Sunday-All Churches agreed to Continue.
-

NEW BUSINESS

- 2020 Charge Conference - Sunday November 8 2:30 to 5:30 pm Will be a Zoom Call
 - One rep from each church must attend Zoom
 - Review & Approve Hope Parish 2021 Budget—Budget was approved as submitted. All in Favor
 - Review & Approve Form I-Form for Pastor Gary -- approved as submitted. All in Favor
- Pastor Gary planning on having mission focus meeting to plan next years. He would like to add Heifer International to our mission focus next year.
- Advent Study-Pastor Gary planning on having one this year but will be doing it by Zoom. More info to come.
- Sunday, November 29th -- Hanging of the Greens Services for: Bayard, Bagley, Cooper and Dawson
- Linden will be decorating their tree and church on November 22nd after their Church service.
- Dawson will be doing Hanging of the Greens, and then having a Soup Supper following Service.
- Christmas Eve Services:
 - Bagley – Dec 24th – 8:00 p.m.
 - Bayard – Dec 24th – 5:00 p.m.
 - Cooper – Dec 24th – 6:00 p.m.
 - Dawson – Dec 23rd – 7:00 p.m.
 - Linden – Dec 24th – 8:30 p.m.
- Thanks to those SPRC members going off Parish Council

The next regular meeting of Hope Parish Council will be Jan. 27, 2021, 7:00 pm



**HOPE UNITED
METHODIST PARISH**

P. O. Box 40

Bagley, IA 50026

Phone:

Cell: 641-757-2222

E-Mail:

hopeparish@netins.net