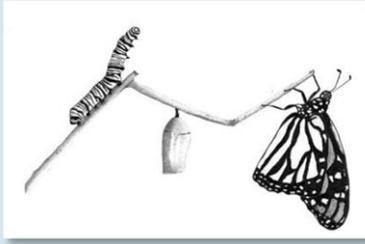


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**PONDERING:** *Changes*



As I've been with you more than a year now, I've been asking how people assess my work and what I should focus on moving forward. Several have said: *we like what you are doing, even with all the changes.* I began wondering: *what changes?* I don't feel as if we are doing anything very different. Maybe it feels different to you... What is it about change?

In preaching about Old-Testament-Joseph I ponder how God doesn't leave us to walk the same path year after year. Joseph got thrown into a well, ended up in Egypt and ultimately in Pharaoh's dungeon. As a result, God used Joseph to save the people of Israel. But Joseph didn't know that, back when he was in the dark dungeon.

We don't see end results either, do we? We see changes -- some wonderful: like marriages, babies, new jobs.... some painful: as loved ones grow up, or leave us, or die. Jobs end. Our health changes; we age.

Cont.

# HOPE PRESBYTERIAN FAMILY NEWS

September 9, 2018



## CHURCH NEWS

**THE SERMON SERIES** – This month Pastor Ginny's sermons will be coming from the book of Exodus. We will be looking at Moses, the Ten Commandments and the people of Israel journeying through the wilderness. At home you can be reading Exodus. How was God preparing and leading the people? How does God prepare and lead us?

**ROOFING WORK** begins this week. We have been corrected that the work may take up to 4 weeks, not just 4 days. While the sanctuary is unaffected (choir practice and bells!) we have relocated other meetings and events for this first week. After this first week we will carry on as usual. Please stay under the covered walkways while workers are on site, and do not park your cars close to any part of the building where they may be working. They plan to start on the roof above the kitchen and move nearer the office as they complete each segment.

**WORLD COMMUNION** is the first Sunday of October, this year October 7. On that Sunday we will place several different kinds of bread in the sanctuary as part of our worship. If you would like to make a special bread that represents your heritage, please let Linda Kent or Ginny

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"God never said that the journey would be easy, but He did say that the arrival would be worthwhile" – **Max**

**Lucado**

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In the church, people, even pastors, come and go. At home your children grow up and leave home. You have an empty nest. So, it's different. Highland Church and Hope church merged; we are a new Hope now. It's different.

Through it all, we need to be open to what God is doing, both in our lives and among us in the church. There will be change. I want to dig in my heels sometimes and say NO! But I know that God uses change to help us grow, perhaps to prepare the church or the world for something new. As Christians we are called to be open to God's work among us, even through change.

Ginny

*For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.*

Romans 8: 24-25

## CONTACT US

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Ellis know. ALSO: if you have a need for us to offer gluten free bread when we have communion please let us know that. Many thanks!

**PLAYGROUND** -- Parts of the equipment on our playground have become rusty and dangerous. As we do not want anyone to be hurt using the playground, it is being closed for use until repairs can be made. That's why the gate has been locked. We are looking into replacement of the dangerous parts and will reopen the playground as soon as possible.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE** -- THIS WEEK join us from 5:30 to 7:00 out at Eagle Lake Park for a covered dish picnic with vespers and games. Turn into the park off Keene and come to Shelter # 1. Choir members can "race back" to the church for choir practice!

The rest of September (the 19<sup>th</sup> and the 26<sup>th</sup>) we will have covered dish (pot luck) meals right here at the church. Be sure to come and bring family and friends, along with your favorite dishes.

**CHRISTMAS PLAY** – Rehearsal for "**Starry Night**" will take place on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 7 p.m. Production dates: December 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

**Parking** – The Jewish Temple, Temple B'nai Israel, will be using some of our parking area on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> at 8 p.m. and on Monday 10<sup>th</sup>, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. and Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup>, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## CHURCH MEETINGS COMING UP

Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday School classes begin Outreach meeting after service R3 B&G meeting after service R5 Worship meeting after service R7
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup>	"Starry Night" play rehearsal 7:00 p.m.
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Young at Heart group are having their 1 <sup>st</sup> meeting. They will be going to Queen's for lunch "Starry Night" play rehearsal 7:00 p.m.
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Deacons meeting after the Service Fellowship lunch at Rooster Fish