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PASTOR'S DESK

Sharing Hope in Jesus Christ

By Rev. Jonathan Cornell

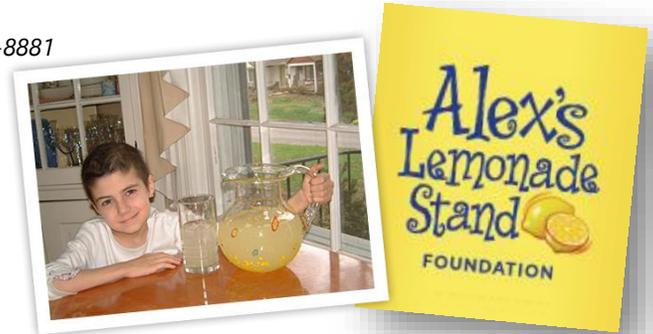
What is your story of hope?

In 1997, two days before her first birthday, Alexandra "Alex" Scott was diagnosed with a childhood cancer called neuroblastoma. She made great progress, but just before her fourth birthday, doctors learned that the tumors were growing again.

"When I get out of the hospital, I'm starting a lemonade stand," she said to her parents. She did, near their home in Connecticut, with her brother. They took in over \$2,000 to give to charity.

But it wasn't until the family moved to Philadelphia to be close to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia that the media caught wind. That's when things really began to take off. Here was a sick child helping other sick children. Could others get in on the act?

Homemade stands began springing up around the country. By 2004, there was at least one "Alex's



Lemonade Stand" in all 50 states. Alex set her sights on an audacious goal. What if the stands could somehow bring in \$1 million to help fund pediatric cancer research?

By the summer of 2004, with the help of children from coast to coast, the goal was surpassed. But Alex's health was failing. On August 1, she succumbed to the cancer she had battled almost all her life. She was 8 years old.

On her ninth birthday, her parents, Jay and Liz Scott, launched the Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation to continue the work she had started. ALSF has now raised more than \$120 million, and has helped fund 550 cutting-edge research projects. Its motto is *Curing Cancer, One Cup at a Time*.

This is only one story of how we humans respond when things get difficult. When life gives us lemons, make a stand.

What is your story of hope? Where did you make a stand?

One person's testimony can literally change hundreds... thousands. On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up before the crowds and testified to what Jesus had done among the eleven in his ministry in Galilee and Judea. And when it was all said and done, thousands were converted.

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Sharing Hope (con't)

But that’s not the most remarkable thing. Just a few chapters later in Acts 9, there was one disciple named Ananias who responded to a word from the Lord: “Go up the street and look for the arch-persecutor of the church called Saul, he’s praying. He is my instrument, to bring my name to the Gentiles. Go and lay hands on him and remain with him.” Ananias was obedient, and one person was introduced to the God’s grace: Saul of Tarsus, otherwise known as the Apostle Paul, the great missionary to the Gentiles.

Stories of Hope can be grand, or they can involve lots of people. What is your story of hope? This fall, as we prayerfully consider God’s leading in the year to come, I pray that you will consider where God is leading you to Share Hope in Jesus Christ.

We all have a story of hope. How will you share yours?

Jonathan
Pastor Jonathan
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Stewardship Series

Growing up Hope Presbyterian, the church where I was raised, had a tradition. Every Sunday after the offering we would sing the same song, “We are One in the Spirit.” Even as a very young child, this had an impact on me, because it attested to their commitment to be one as a church and to share the hope they had in Jesus Christ.

In one of the most quotable movies out there, *The Shawshank Redemption*, Andy Dufresne says to another inmate: “Remember Red, hope is a good thing, maybe the best of things, and no good thing ever dies.”

This year, as we prepare our financial forecasts for 2017, we are recommitting to a lifelong mission Jesus gives each of us—to share hope with one another. Wabash Presbyterian has been a light and source of hope in Wabash for over 175 years. We invite you to join us once again in our commitment to Share Hope in Jesus Christ in 2017.

See back cover for information about Commitment Sunday.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays:

- 1st – Linda Gabel
- 1st – Dessie Sturgeon
- 1st – Ware Wimberly
- 3rd – Bernice Grover
- 9th – Sydney Gabel
- 9th – Jason Turner
- 14th – Patty Fulwider
- 14th – Jo Wood
- 14th – Sue Rose
- 17th – Ray Chowning
- 19th – Amy Cornell
- 19th – Bill Gabel
- 22nd – Tracy Turner
- 24th – Robert Beauchamp
- 25th – Shari Kaltenmark
- 30th – Pete Jones

Anniversaries:

- 30th – Tom & Janet Hauptert

People I want to connect with this month (i.e., card/call, coffee/lunch, prayer, Bible study):

Community & Missions

*Loving people
with the heart of Christ
in the heart of Wabash*

Feed Our Community

You are always encouraged to bring canned/dry goods for the F.I.S.H. food pantry and drop them off in any of the boxes throughout the church. This month, we are collecting cereal, pasta, and pasta sauce.

MISSION SPOTLIGHT Character Building of Wabash County

Character Building of Wabash County is an interdenominational program of one-half hour classes that are designed to teach children good morals based on Biblical principles.

These classes are voluntary and are offered to elementary students in third through sixth grades in MSD of Wabash County. There are plans in place to extend the Character Building program to OJ Neighbours Elementary School in Wabash when scheduling permits.

Christmas Jubilee

Back for Its 29th Year!

Our great benevolence tradition, the Christmas Jubilee, will be held on Saturday, December 10th, at 9am. in the Fellowship Room. The aim of the Christmas Jubilee has always been to demonstrate Christ's love to our community by providing some disadvantaged parents and their children with a few of the joys of Christmas. WPC has been annually hosting the Jubilee since 1987.

The mission committee is seeking your prayers, contributions, and service in helping to achieve this year's goal of serving thirty children. Obviously, it will be challenging to have sufficient prayer, raise approximately \$3,000, and staff the Jubilee with the large number of volunteers it requires.

It is time to start our preparations in earnest for this year's Jubilee. Those who have taken part in this project in the past know that its success depends on the participation of many church members.

The type of help that is needed is listed below. We will be putting a sign-up form in the bulletin in November. Please indicate your area(s) of interest there or by contacting the church office.

Ways You Can Help:

- Pray that our Christmas Jubilee is successful, and that our thoughts and actions demonstrate Christ's love to those we serve.
- Donate money to be used to purchase toys and food SCRIP for the Christmas Jubilee.
- Provide transportation for guest families.
- Prepare and serve breakfast to our guests.
- Provide child care for our guest children in the Christian Education Building.
- Serve as a host for one of our guest families.
- Clerk at our "toy store" and help our guest parents make gift selections.
- Help our guests wrap gifts.

Contact Jim Kaltenmark with questions or for more information.

November Church Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Community Meal (6pm) Choir Practice (7pm)	3	4 Church Women United (9am @ Wabash Christian Church) Book Study (11am)	5
6 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS Sunday School & Choir Practice (9am) Worship (10am) & Fellowship Hour (11am) Community Prayer Gathering (4:30pm, YMCA) <i>*Loose Offering: Gas Vouchers</i>	7 Joshua Bible Study (9am) Election Eve Prayer Service (7pm)	8 ELECTION DAY ROMEO Men's Lunch (12:30pm @ Ugalde's)	9 Community Meal (6pm) Choir Practice (7pm)	10 Kari Out of Office Missions (6:30pm) Buildings & Grounds (7pm) Worship Team (7pm)	11 Book Study (11am)	12 Sacred Places Training (Indy) Access Thanksgiving Dinner (6-8pm @ Access Youth Center)
13 Sunday School & Choir Practice (9am) Worship (10am) & Fellowship Hour (11am)	14 Joshua Bible Study (9am) Helping Hands	15	16 Choir Practice (7pm)	17 Session (7pm)	18 Book Study (11am) A Night to Remember (4-8pm)	19
20 Sunday School & Choir Practice (9am) Worship (10am) & Fellowship Hour (11am)	21 Joshua Bible Study (9am)	22	23 Choir Practice (7pm)	24 THANKSGIVING Office Closed	25 Office Closed	26
27 First Sunday of Advent Sunday School & Choir Practice (9am) Worship (10am) Stewardship Lunch (11am)	28 Joshua Bible Study (9am)	29 JULIET Women's Breakfast (8am @ Ugalde's)	30 Choir Practice (7pm)			



Business Notes

September Session Minutes

- Roof project is 90% complete.
- Several building needs, including new heating system. Need to prioritize and complete when funds are available.
- Working on 2017 Budget.

Loose Offering | WPC's Gas Voucher Program

The loose cash that is collected on November 6th will help provide gas vouchers to those in our community who come to the church for aid. Give to this fund at any time by writing "Gas Vouchers" on your offering.

Financial Report

	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Total 2016</u>
Income:	\$42,281	\$195,188
Expenses:	<u>31,800</u>	<u>184,118</u>
Balance:	\$10,481	\$11,070

**Thanks to your generous response to the Roof Offering, we did not have to use any money from our Edward Jones account for September.*

Give online. Use our secure site to set up recurring gifts (like pledges) or for one-time gifts (like paying for a Bible study book or supporting our Mission Partners).

Worship & Connect

Election Eve Prayer Service

You are invited to a service of solemn liturgy and prayer for our nation as we elect a new president, Monday, November 7th at 7pm at WPC. It is a confusing and disorienting time. As people of God, we can do one thing that can sustain hope in difficult times: pray. Please consider joining us for this important time of prayer and worship.

Church Women United

In celebration of World Communion Day, Church Women United will prepare boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Women are asked to bring a shoe box and items for the box; wrapping paper will be provided. Information about items to put in boxes is available at www.samaritanaspurse.org. Friday, November 4th, 9am at Wabash Christian Church (110 W Hill St).

Life Together Community Meals

Need a little mid-week encouragement? Join us Wednesdays at 6pm for great food, conversation, and fellowship. Meals will continue through November 9th.

Serve

Access Thanksgiving Dinner

Help local youth and families celebrate Thanksgiving on Saturday, November 12th, 6-8pm at the Access. Volunteer sign-up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall.

2017 Volunteer Schedule

Each of us has a special place where we can serve and minister to others. Let Kari know if you are interested in volunteering on one of our teams: usher, nursery, Godly Play, or back-up for audio or video.

Shadowing Godly Play

Interested in being a Storyteller for Godly Play, but want to check it out first? Talk with Kari about shadowing for a week. You're also encouraged to talk to current Storytellers to hear about their experience.

Downtown's Night to Remember

Friday, November 18th, 4-8pm, we will open our Fellowship Hall with warm beverages, a children's craft, and Christmas Carol singing. We need volunteers to help host our guests. Please sign up for a time slot, either 4-6pm or 6-8pm. Please contact Carol Early for more information.

Kids Hope USA

Update from the Director, Tracy Peas

Mentors and Students

There are currently 13 mentors in the school with another 3 in the training process. The kids are so excited to see their mentors each week and constantly want assurance that they will be back again the next week. The smiles on their faces are priceless! One little guy told his mentor that "All my dreams have come true" by having someone there for just him. It's amazing what one hour a week means to a child. If you are still interested in being a mentor, it's not too late to get started this school year. Just email me at tracypeas@gmail.com or call me at 260-571-7001.



OJ Neighbours Neighbors—Prayer Partners

I will be setting out a list of all the OJ Neighbours Elementary teachers and staff again this year. What I would like is to have you sign up to be a prayer partner for one or more of the people on the list. After that, it is easy—just take a moment once in a while to pray for them. If you would like to write them an encouraging note, that is great. You can either leave it at the church and I will be sure to get it to them or you can just drop it off at the school. We will still be doing something special for all of them each month at the school, so watch the newsletter and bulletin for more information as that time gets closer.

Thank You!

Thank you to all the volunteers who are willing to take time out of their week for a child. The volunteers are the ones who are and will continue to make this program a success!

Scripture Verse

2 Timothy 3:16-17 NLT

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

Reflection:

Prayer List

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Family of Mark Coppler | Jennifer Maxwell | Amy Turner |
| Christine Murphy | Bill Campbell | Mary Jane Garrison |
| Rowann Andrews | Teresa Bowman | Bill Skeans |
| Mike Philip | Judy Lovellette | Lois Smith |
| Stan Williams | Kim Noland | Nancy Chowning |
| Hank Decker | Danika Landis | Lois Dickinson |
| Pastor Enoch | Heather Houlihan | Mildred Paullus |
| John Schultheiss | Alison McAllister | Elmer Myers |
| Carl Willmert | Rita Alexander | Ron & Faith Rider |
| Hope Unger | Steve Snyder | Mary Leland |
| Carolyn Biltz | Kevin Gerhart | Dessie Sturgeon |
| Judy Waggoner | Debbie Phillips | Connie Squires |
| Jakobe Wolf | Ari Halderman | Helen Shanks |
| Kay Caudill | Jack Crosby | Martha Helm |
| Tina Easterday | Jack Francis | Katie Baer |

Have a prayer request?

If you have a prayer request, please email Kari Lee Otto at office@wabashpresbyterian.com. Please respect the privacy of others and share their concerns only with their permission. You can also email Kari if you'd like to receive the weekly prayer list via email.

CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Stewardship for Kids

Kids can learn about managing their gifts and resources for God's glory and honor, just like adults!

"Stewardship is the idea that we are managers, not consumers of all that we have been blessed with. All we have belongs to God."

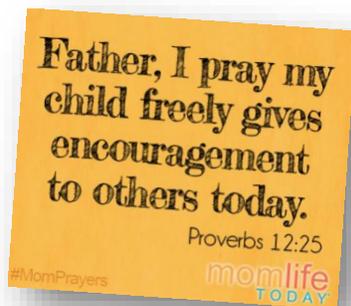
- Read the Parable of the Talents in Matthew 25:14-28 together and talk about it. If you're using a regular Bible (instead of a children's Bible), a translation like NIRV or NLT works best!
- Look up what the words *steward* and *stewardship* mean. Try to put them in easy-to-understand terms.
- Share things that you are responsible for as a parent (i.e., their clothes, food, etc.)
- Help them create a list of things (not just money) God has given them to use for good.
- Further help them understand stewardship by giving them something to care for, like a plant.

These ideas were taken from Kimberly Amici's blog. Learn more here: <http://bit.ly/2ek5vai>

RECOMMENDED RESOURCE

#MomPrayers

Though geared toward moms, Mom Prayers are useful for both moms and dads as they pray for their kids, often using Scripture as a basis for the prayer.



Check them out at

<http://momlifetoday.com/?s=momprayers>

DIG DEEPER

Vehicles of Grace

By Kari Lee Otto

"For a long time, I thought my children were a distraction from the work God was doing in my life and in the world around me. I am starting to realize they ARE the work God is doing in my life. They are the invitation to give, to receive, to be humbled, to grow. They are the vehicles of grace." (Amy Julia Becker, *Small Talk*)



It's true, what Amy writes. Children have this fascinating ability to help us grow as adults. I see this in my relationship with my daughter, but also in the interactions with all the kids I work with. I learn how to:

- Play (again).
- Laugh freely.
- See things differently or for the first time.
- Be a friend.
- Let my attention be consumed by one thing.

But more than that, they have given me time and space to grow as a follower of Jesus. To:

- Practice patience.
- Pray deeply and earnestly.
- Forgive.
- Keep things in perspective.
- Imagine what God can do.
- Give and share generously.

Friends, whatever kids you interact with—your own children, grandchildren, your friends' kids, or kiddos here at church—I pray that each encounter would be a life-giving, grace-full moment where we can invite God to work in our lives.

Kari

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**Loving people with the
heart of Christ in the
heart of Wabash**

Commitment Sunday

Sunday, November 27th

We will Share Hope in Jesus Christ by offering and dedicating our pledges and commitments to God during the worship service. Following worship, you are invited to remain for a soup and sandwich luncheon to celebrate God's faithfulness to Wabash Presbyterian. You will also hear a recap of our first seminar with Partners for Sacred Places.



Sacred Places Update

On November 12th, representatives from Wabash Pres will begin a yearlong course designed to equip historic congregations, like ours, in preserving their mission and place in the community. Cathy Wright, Maggie Wimberly, Jeannie Walts, and Jonathan Cornell will learn and report back to you on ways we can leverage our space to be an even greater witness to our community. We look forward to sharing what we learn with you, the congregation.



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