

Hope United Methodist Church

September 6, 2026

Lead Courageously

Pastor Jim Denton

Joshua 1:5-9
Ephesians 6:10-18

Today's Music:

Opening Hymn: God of Grace and God of Glory (UMH 577)

Prayer Hymn: Holy Spirit, Truth Divine (UMH 465)

Closing Hymn: The Summons (TFWS 2130)

Prayer Concerns:

Claude, Shirley, Rosalie, Angela, Phyllis, Breanna, Dean, Mary, Amanda, Larry, Nancy, Jerry, Sheryl, James, Tim, Heidi, Pam, Lexi, Deanne, Dave, David, Elaine, Lisa, Mary Jo, Liliana, Tom, Don, Yvonne, Mikey, Daniel, Ramah, Francis, Jenny, Faith, Betty, Andrea, Steve, Dana, Michael, Jacqueline, Don, Stephanie, Katie, Linda, Richard, Julio, Jim, Jacob, Patrick, Kristen, Aiden

Our homebound: Adele, Mary, Fran, Irene, Nina, Shirlee, Betty, Diane

Worship Order

Welcome and Community Life
Prelude
Centering Words
Call to Worship
Opening Hymn*
Opening Prayer
Children's Message
Change for Change Collection
Time of Prayer | Prayer Hymn
Prayer of Illumination
Scripture Reading
Sermon
Holy Communion
Offering Our Gifts to God
Doxology | Prayer of Dedication*
Closing Hymn *
Breakthrough Prayer*
Dismissal with Blessing*

*Please stand, as you are comfortable.

Serving Today

Greeters: Anna Frankland, Irma Mora
Ushers: Irma Mora & Fran Vukovich
Acolyte: Ameya Serna
Children's Message: Pastor Jim
Liturgist: Pat Mosley
Organist: Cleo Milan
Fellowship: Fran Vukovich

Serving Next Sunday

Greeters: Anna Frankland, Irma Mora
Ushers: Irma Mora & Fran Vukovich
Acolyte: Sofia Smith
Children's Message:
Liturgist: Marcos Pontes
Organist: David Bieschke
Fellowship:

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, September 6

Lay Servant Academy @ 2-5pm, Hebron UMC

Monday, September 7

Church Building Closed in observance of Labor Day

Tuesday, September 8

Sonrise Seniors @ 10:30 am, Library
Adam's Rib @ 5:00pm, Hartsfield

Wednesday, September 9

Quilters @ 10:00am, Narthex
Bible Study @ 10:30am, Library
Brianna's Hope @ 6:00pm, Narthex/Library

Thursday, September 10

Finance @ 6:00pm, Library
Girl Scout Leaders @ 6:30pm, Narthex
Social Justice Ministry @ 7:00pm, Zoom

Saturday, September 12

Choir Practice @ 10:00am, Choir Room

Sunday, September 13

Hope UMC Celebration/ Phil's Friends

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Announcements and Community News

September Second Mile Giving for Hope UMC – Phil's Friends, is an organization that provides free, customized care packages and heartfelt support to cancer patients. Their mission is to spread love, hope, and strength during one of life's toughest battles—reminding those facing cancer that they are never alone.

United Women in Faith "Mission Unstoppable" – **United Women in Faith Fall Gathering** will take place at First UMC Valparaiso, 103 Franklin Street, Valparaiso, Indiana **on September 19, 11:00am to 3:15pm** (CST). Please bring donations of adult coloring books, markers, colored pencils, women's hair brushes, and children's detangler for **Raindrops Rising**. To register or learn more, contact Lora Ward at (708) 650-6417 or email lward4203@aol.com, \$10 Registration, payable at the door. Come join us for a meaningful time of fellowship, faith, and service!

Northern Lakes Fall Lay Servant Academy – Join us for the **Lay Servant Ministries Academy** to begin or continue your lay servant training. Classes meet **Sundays, Sept. 6, 13, 20, & 27, from 2:00–5:00 p.m.** at Hebron UMC, 202 W. Church St., Hebron, IN. Attendance at all four sessions is required for credit. Cost: \$10. Register by today at <https://inumc.swoogo.com/hebronfall2026>. For more information, contact Karen Williams at 219-869-2324 or mrs.karen.wms@gmail.com.

The **Next Messy Church** event is on **Tuesday, September 22** from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Hope UMC, Community Center.

Hope UMC Celebration – Come celebrate Hope UMC's One-Year Anniversary on **Sunday, September 13**, as we gather for a special time of worship, fellowship, and gratitude. Come and celebrate this special milestone with us. We look forward to sharing this joyful occasion with our church family and friends.

Introduction to Lay Servant Ministry - You are invited to join us for the Lay Servant Ministries course to begin or continue training for living out the call to make disciples for the transformation of our churches, communities, and world. This is an in-person Lay Servant Academy event. Attendance at all 4 sessions is required for credit. This class begins on October 11 and runs **October 11, 18, 25, and November 1, 1-4pm** at **Hope UMC, 7320 Northcote Ave., Hammond, IN. Register by October 8:**

<https://inumc.swoogo.com/introlayministry2026>

The altar flowers in worship are given by and **in honor of Sonia and Ken Vincent's 65th Wedding Anniversary.**

Remember to like and follow our Facebook page if you are social media:
www.facebook.com/INHopeUMC. And make sure you visit the website: inhopeumc.org/

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 admin@inhopeumc.org

Pastor Jim Denton - (219) 281-1054
james.denton@inumc.org



NEW HERE



**TITHE &
OFFERING**



**EXPANDED
BULLETIN**

Hope United Methodist Church

*Please stand, as you are comfortable.

Welcome and Community Life

Prelude

Centering Words

Call to Worship

Leader: Family of God, on our journey of faith, we are not alone—God is with us!

People: Because God is with us, we can love boldly.

Leader: God is with us, and God joins us with one another as the Body of Christ.

People: Because God draws us together, we can serve joyfully.

Leader: Through God, we work for the flourishing of self, neighbor, and all creation.

People: Because God holds us together, we can lead courageously.

Leader: Family of God, on this journey of faith, we are not alone—God is with us!

People: We come to worship God by boldly loving, joyfully serving, and courageously leading, that we may be disciples of Jesus Christ who transform the world. Amen.

*Opening Hymn – God of Grace and God of Glory (UMH 577)

1. God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power; crown thine ancient church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

2. Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

3. Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control; shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4. Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore; let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

Opening Prayer

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Children's Message

Memory Verse: This is the day the lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it (Psalm 118:24)

Prayer Hymn – Holy Spirit, Truth Divine (UMH 465)

1. Holy Spirit, Truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine; Word of God and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight.
2. Holy Spirit, Love divine, glow within this heart of mine; kindle every high desire; perish self in thy pure fire.
3. Holy Spirit, Power divine, fill and nerve this will of mine; grant that I may strongly live, bravely bear, and nobly strive.
4. Holy Spirit, Right divine, King within my conscience reign; be my Lord, and I shall be firmly bound, forever free.

Prayers of the People

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen

Prayer Response – Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying (TFWS 2193)

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.

Prayer of Illumination

Giver of courage, we confess that we need your encouragement to be strong and courageous. May the word we hear today equip us with your strength, encircle us with your truth, cover us with your righteousness, and make us ready to share your gospel of peace. We want to be people of true faith, trusting you to protect us from all forces against you. Heal us and form us according to your word.

Open our hearts and minds and shape our wills to love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously as we learn to walk more faithfully in your presence. Amen

Scripture Reading

Joshua 1:5-9

No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous, for you shall lead this people to possess the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to

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act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

Ephesians 6:10-18

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power; put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, for our struggle is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present[b] darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on the evil day and, having prevailed against everything, to stand firm. Stand, therefore, and belt your waist with truth and put on the breastplate of righteousness and lace up your sandals in preparation for the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

Gloria Patri (UMH 70)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Sermon – “Lead Courageously”

Holy Communion

...Receive this goodness: Even when we wander, we are not alone. God is with us wherever we go.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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It is right to give our thanks and praise.

....

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

....

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Prayer After Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.

....

Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offering our Gifts to God

*The Doxology (UMH 94)

*Prayer of Dedication

***Closing Hymn** - The Summons (TFWS 2130)

1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never by the same? Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, will you let me life be grown in you and you in me?

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2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

3. Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

***Breakthrough Prayer**

God of new beginnings and second chances. When your son, Jesus the Christ gave his life for us, the veil of separation was torn. Breakthrough all that would keep us separate from one another, from our neighbors, and from you that we may be one just as you and the Father are one. Lead us now into your beloved community where our identity is rooted in Christ alone.

Dismissal with Blessing

Postlude