



Helping  
Overcome with  
Purpose and  
Encouragement

*"Those who hope in the Lord  
will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles"*  
Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)

Issue 41 | OCTOBER 2020

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## Change! BY NEVIN & JOANN NISLY

*"So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into His glorious image." II Corinthians 3:18 NLT*

As we traveled through the hills of Vermont and New Hampshire celebrating our 10th anniversary, we took notice of the yellows, oranges, and reds of the leaves as they did what they do every year. Change! (Change happens as we leave the old and adapt to the new.) The changing of leaves means leaving summer and moving into winter.

For children as they leave one grade, they have the transition of summer break and then move to a new grade. Sometimes we leave one location and go to a new one. We don't need to look far around us to see changes happening. Children growing up, families growing, produce growing, etc. These changes are all part of the process of growth and bring about more maturity in our lives. We don't make the internal change, but God uses our environment, thoughts, and actions to develop the change that happens within.

Sometimes we like the changes and sometimes we don't. Sometimes a very traumatic circumstance forces change. We often need to grieve loss in the changes that these traumas bring. Because of God's great love, He is able to take these awful things and redeem them unexplainably. Sometimes it is difficult to trust Him to do this. Because of His love, He understands our grief.



Sometimes we long for change in our personal lives. It can get frustrating when we can't make changes like we want to. It's frustrating seeing ourselves needy or hurting. To recognize that all we need to do is be faithful in the small things God allows into our lives can be freeing. He does the change for us.

A number of years ago Nevin saw purpose in an old roll top desk that someone wanted to be rid of. Joann didn't want the "junk" around the place. It looked like an impossible task, but Nevin saw a desk that could be fixed and purposeful and nice. We brought it home and with some sanding, a little refinishing, and some work on fixing a drawer, change took place. Today we have a very useable and nice desk because of some effort that was broken down into smaller jobs. When God sees us, He sees purpose and is willing to walk with us in each of the steps that change requires.

Eleven years ago, we left the occupation of teaching and changed our course to walking with adults on a regular basis as they desired more personal enrichment. We began meeting with people in the basement of our temporary residence. Through this we saw changes we would make when we had our own place.

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## SPECIAL FEATURES

- February Seminar in Iowa
- HOPE Happenings
- Freedom Poem
- Voices in Our Lives

### OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday & Friday  
9:00am – 1:00pm



## MISSION STATEMENT

HOPE Ministries seeks to help individuals explore patterns that may have developed over their lifetime and provide opportunities to allow Jesus to bring healing and hope to their lives in fresh ways.

# Change! CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

God provided a place in which we could have a counseling room attached to the house and yet have it's own entrance and restroom. This has worked pretty well for 10 years. But changes have continued to happen at HOPE Ministries little by little! God has brought on other individuals to assist us. Our home is at times bursting at the seams.

And so....another change is on the horizon! We have a rental house a block away from our house that has become available. It has three bedrooms that will be turned into individual counseling rooms. The living room will be made into a reception/secretary area. We are excited about God's provision. As with most change, we will be leaving the old and moving into a new phase. Some things we will miss, but there is anticipation in the unknown of what the future holds as well. By taking on jobs little by little, the main base of HOPE Ministries will soon be at a new location. Big changes happen as little things are accomplished. In this way God's purposes can be accomplished.

As you look at the changes you are encountering in your life, take time to grieve any loss of the old. Take time to thank the Lord for the growth and the abilities you have to do the little things that contribute to the big change. In all this, recognize that Jesus is excited about you and is interested in all you are experiencing and desires to walk with you in the midst of each change! These changes—made step by step—have potential to make us just a little more like Him!

**UPCOMING SEMINAR**

HOPE MINISTRIES PRESENTS:

**HEALING FOR THE HURTING HEART**

For more information, contact Delmar Bontrager at 319-530-3479

**Kalona, Iowa**  
 Sharon Bethel Church  
**February 17-21, 2020**  
 7:00 pm each evening



## HOPE MINISTRIES HAPPENINGS

### Seminar in Nebraska | August 22-23, 2020



### 10th Anniversary Open House September 13, 2020



### Seminar in Kansas | October 2-3, 2020



## HOPE MINISTRIES CLIENTS JULY-SEPTEMBER 2020

**8 Couples**

2 New Cases

4 Follow-Up Case

2 Premarital Couples

**12 Ladies**

5 New Cases

7 Follow-Up Cases

**8 Men**

5 New Cases

3 Follow-Up Cases

**18 Follow-Up Phone Calls**

A poem expressing how God has been working in Karen's heart following her time at HOPE Ministries.

## Freedom Poem

BY KAREN MILLER

*Lord Jesus,*

You open the gate and bid me come through.  
The open space beckons; Your love makes all new.

Your embrace of delight shows value of "me".  
I don't have to perform—by grace You set free.

The bondage of "should" melts away as I see  
The language of love that sets my soul free.

Your truth anchors me; Your grace makes me soar  
To heights that I never experienced before.

This fullness of love, this abundance of grace,  
Combined with your truth, opens up a new space!

You've opened the gate; You've welcomed me through.  
You've given me wholeness; You've made my world new.

You've shown me Your love is not something I earn  
By the things I accomplish or the lessons I learn.

Thank You for giving this freedom to me!  
To actually like who You made me to be!

The old claustrophobia has dropped with the chains  
That held me so long, and now Jesus remains

To open new spaces . . . to grow . . . to explore . . .  
To freely go out through His wide open door . . .

To embrace with abandon the Karen He made,  
And not be ashamed of the gifts that He gave.

To allow Him to use them in His Kingdom of Grace,  
And flourish and grow in this wide-open place.

To see all He offers in wide-eyed delight . . .  
To revel in riches of fullness and might . . .

What rest Jesus gives as I look in His face!  
What fullness He gives, and how warm His embrace!

You teach me with visuals, with Scripture and hymns;  
I open my heart as You pour Yourself in.

I hear what You tell me; absorb what You give:  
Fresh strength for each day, and a reason to live.

It takes lots of time to keep hearing Your voice.  
You never will force me; it's always my choice.

But Your love is so rich, so genuine . . . true . . .  
It's freeing . . . delightful . . . I love to know You!

It's worth it to spend the time that I need  
For ongoing growth as I follow Your lead.

*Karen*



# Voices BY WAYNE YUTZY

“There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world...” I Corinthians 14:10. There are many voices we can (and do) listen to. Do we realize that those voices influence the way we think?

Covid-19 has influenced our lives in one form or another in 2020. There are many questions one would like to ask as we seek the truth. One of my personal struggles is, how do we know we can trust what someone is saying about the pandemic? There is an innumerable count of sources that would like for you to believe their version of what has, is, and will happen.

In the upcoming election for the leader of our nation, either side would like for you to listen to their agenda and fill you with thoughts to align you with their ways.

In our daily lives we sometimes choose to listen to the voice of the enemy. He comes with whispers of discouragement, doubt, fear, accusation to name only a few. Our other option is to listen to what God has to say to us. While we may not often experience God speaking to us in ways as He did to John in Revelations 1:10 and 1:15...with a “great voice, as a trumpet” or as “rushing waters;” the Holy Spirit is constantly speaking to us. Ephesians 1:13 states “In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed on him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.”

While there are many spirits in the world, there is

only one Holy Spirit and He will never contradict the Scriptures. Jesus’ voice comes with an awareness of heavenly peace.

“For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace...” I Corinthians 14:33. In contrast, the devil uses urgency, pressure, and fear to drive people. What is more prevalent today in our society than greed and jealousy? “For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.” James 3:16

If we are so prone to listen to the enemy, we should be twice as swift to listen to the words of comfort and truth that God has offered in His Scriptures. “I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.” John 16:33

Again, there are many voices we can (and do) listen to. Do we realize that those voices influence the way we think?

“Watch your thoughts,  
for they become words.  
Choose your words,  
for they become your actions.  
Understand your actions,  
for they become habits.  
Study your habits,  
for they will become your character.  
Develop your character,  
for it becomes your destiny.”  
Author Unknown



**Wayne & Kimberly Yutzy**  
Savannah, Kendra, Brenda, Friedrich



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## Board Members

- Nevin & Joann Nisly** Director
- Arlen & Gloria Mast** Chairman
- Julian & Bertha Nisly** Secretary/Treasurer
- Gene L. Miller** Board Member
- Chris & Jolene Yoder** Board Member
- Michael & Jolene Hershberger** Board Member
- Wayne & Kimberly Yutzy** Board Member



## Financial Information

Because we desire that no one is hindered from coming due to financial pressure, we do not charge for counseling. We are grateful for those who have stood with us, and trust in God’s continuing provision through His people.

As a 501(c)(3) organization, we are accountable to our board for the finances and the operation of HOPE Ministries. If you wish to know more details about our finances, please contact Julian Nisly, our treasurer, at 620-664-5304.

### WAYS TO DONATE

1. Visit the website
2. Mail a check
3. Phone the office

We invite your prayers and financial support as the Lord lays it on your heart. Tax deductible receipts will automatically be issued for checks of \$50 or more.