

HOPE

25th Anniversary

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How the Holy Spirit works at Hope

By Cathy Robinson

Being the executive director at Hope these last 16 years has been a wonderful and oftentimes challenging faith walk. My faith has been stretched again and again, but through it I have been tremendously blessed to see the Holy Spirit at work. As I reflect on my ministry here, there are four ways in which I have experienced the Holy Spirit working at Hope. They are what I label **inspiration, guidance, provision, and empowerment.**

Inspiration is a divine idea of direction and purpose from God. Sometimes inspiration takes the form of an idea out of the blue; other times it is more like a light turning on to provide new insight into problems or questions. Hope began with inspiration to Dr. Dan many years ago. In his practice he was struggling to help many people who were losing their jobs and their health insurance. God inspired him to create a free clinic and to recruit others to join him in serving those in need. We all know how blessed that inspiration has been.

Just recently, we have felt God's leading to open a satellite Medical Clinic in western Wayne County. However, finding a location for the clinic was proving to be a challenge. One Sunday, when visiting a church in Wayne with a family member, I felt inspired to ask the pastor if he would consider holding the clinic in the church building. I didn't have any particular knowledge that would lead me to believe the church would be interested in this project. In fact, the pastor had never heard of Hope. Nevertheless,



Cathy Robinson, Executive Director

he and the church elders enthusiastically embraced the idea and we plan on starting the Wayne Clinic in the basement of Lighthouse Ministry this year.

Guidance is God's step by step instruction in fulfilling the inspiration. The Holy Spirit guides Hope in a number of ways: through dreams, circumstances, prophetic words, and inward senses. In fulfilling the vision of owning the facility that housed our Medical Clinic, we felt God's leading to purchase a complex of buildings on Adams Street in Ypsilanti. After beginning renovation and discovering the complex zoning and building requirements, we were told we could not house a clinic large enough to meet our needs in that complex. It soon became clear that God had other plans for the property. We were clearly guided through the circumstances to open our Dental Clinic there.

Sometimes it's a challenge to hear God's voice guiding us through all the complex issues we have faced at Hope over the years. Thankfully we serve a God who will not give up on showing us the right way if we continue to seek Him.

Provision is His equipping and providing the means and the tangible resources to accomplish His work. We know that God is the One who meets all of our needs at Hope. Time and time again when funds have dried up, or we have needed a particular piece of equipment, or we had a patient we were struggling to help, God has provided what we needed just at the right time. A few years ago we were nearing the end of a large renovation project at Hope Center, which houses our social service programs and our administrative staff. Suddenly we found ourselves with new space to operate and no furniture to fill the space. We no sooner got the prayer out of our mouths than someone walked in the front door and asked if we could use any office furniture. It turns out that the county had redone their offices and wanted to give away just what we needed to fill our new conference room and offices. Another time an oxygen tank, something we don't normally keep at the Medical Clinic, was donated the day before we had a patient in desperate need of one. Still another time, I was storing a pair of new, donated boots in my office when a homeless woman with cold, wet, frostbitten feet came to Hope. Her feet just happened to be the same size as the boots. Again and again we have seen God faithfully providing

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Gift from Chamberlin Foundation builds Hope's endowment

Thanks to a generous donation of \$60,000 from the Clarence & Grace Chamberlin Foundation, Hope's endowment has reached \$70,000 and will begin yielding income this year.

Hope's endowment is held and managed by the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation. The endowment itself is not spent, but the income from the invested money is distributed to Hope on a regular basis.

A gift to the endowment fund will continue to benefit Hope for years to come. And a great way to honor Hope's 25th Anniversary is to make a gift in honor of your favorite member of the Hope family. There is no minimum amount required for a gift of cash.

A planned gift is another way to contribute to Hope's endowment. A planned gift may require a larger minimum donation. For information on planned gifts or how to make a gift to the endowment, contact Cathy Robinson at 734-485-5594 or crobinson@thehopeclinic.org.

The Hope Clinic Newsletter is published by Hope Medical Clinic, Inc. Hope is an interdenominational Christian medical, dental, and social service agency whose goal is to provide compassionate and practical help to those in need, ministering to the whole person. Hope is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

HOPE

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Deb Mantel and friends sing for Hope

Hope was again blessed by the musical gifts of Deb Mantel and friends at a benefit concert held on Friday, Feb. 9 at Knox Presbyterian Church. Deb, along with Eric McLaughlin and David Mosher, performed contemporary Christian and folk music for an audience of more than 400 people. The evening was hosted by the Knox getREAL Coffeehouse. A free will offering was taken to benefit Hope Clinic, which raised approximately \$3,000.

Special thanks go to Deb Mantel, Eric

McLaughlin, and David Mosher, along with backup singers Nancy Raney and Lori Simons, who so generously shared their talents to benefit Hope. We also want to thank Knox Presbyterian Church, especially Monika Lamine and the getREAL Coffeehouse, for being our gracious hosts for the evening. Thanks also to Bear Claw Coffee, Minute Maid, and the members of Hope and Knox who baked cookies and donated refreshments for the evening. And thank you to all who attended this event and supported Hope.



On Feb. 9 Knox Church hosted a benefit concert that raised nearly \$3,000 for Hope. From left, Eric McLaughlin, Deb Mantel, and David Mosher.

How the Holy Spirit works at Hope

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for Hope and those we serve.

Empowerment is God's imparting of the ability and anointing to implement His work. God's empowerment enables us to handle whatever situation we find ourselves in with His confidence and peace. We receive a divine ability, beyond our natural capabilities, to carry out His will in a situation. For example, several years ago we were distributing Thanksgiving turkeys and the truck arrived very late. Understandably, there was a long line of impatient, frustrated people by the time the truck got here. Soon, the group became disorderly, pushing and shoving and crowding around the truck. Two men even jumped on the truck and started taking turkeys. I felt totally out of my depth. There was real potential for a fight to break out among those

who received turkeys and those that didn't. Without blinking an eye I jumped on the truck, told the men to get down, and told the crowd to get back. Order was restored. It was obvious to me that God empowered me. The crowd was responding to His authority acting through me. This is just one of the many ways that God has empowered me to do His will over the years here at Hope.

Hope is God's work, not ours, and our job is to not get in the way of what God is about. Because it's God's work, we can be confident that He will inspire, guide, provide, and empower us. Working at Hope and seeing God work first hand continues to bless and encourage me.

As we observe our 25th anniversary this year, let's celebrate and thank God for His inspiration, guidance, provision, and empowerment at Hope.

My favorite memory of Hope

In honor of our 25th anniversary, we have asked members of the Hope family to share their favorite Hope memories with us. In this issue of the newsletter we continue with more of these memories.

David Zini volunteered as a greeter at the Medical Clinic when it first started up, and since 1991 he has volunteered at our weekend meal program.

“I remember the clinic stopping for a while due to lack of malpractice insurance. The first time it reopened we had one patient. Have we come a long way!

“When the soup kitchen started I was asked to help out as a serving and clean-up supervisor, and I have been serving this way since.

“A few memories:

“A lady without a coat asked for one from the Salvation Army rack. There were quite a few; however, we were not supposed to give out these clothes and I declined. One of the guests there for the meal heard her request and quietly gave me his new coat to give her.

“It was a busy day at the soup kitchen. We had stopped serving the meal, and a guest knocked on the door. I regret having turned him away. Now I try to set aside a plate of food just in case someone shows up late.”



Dave Zini

Jim Manney was on the board of Hope Clinic in the very early days.

“There was no clinic building yet, and no staff. We had the great example of Dr. Dan Heffernan’s work with the poor, and the powerful conviction that we should expand this work. It was a wonderful, inspiring idea. Many good people were committed to it. But we weren’t sure how to implement it.

“We had raised some money, but opinions were divided about what to do with it. Some felt that we needed to raise more money—a lot more money—before we could hire a director and expand our services. Others wanted to open the doors and trust God. No one was quite sure *how* we would raise the funds we needed.

“After a lot of discussion, the board decided to hire Cathy Zick (now Robinson) to be the director of Hope Clinic, even though we didn’t have the money to pay her salary for very many months. This was one of the most inspired decisions of those early days. Cathy proved to be an excellent administrator (and an energetic fund raiser). The Clinic flourished and grew under her leadership.

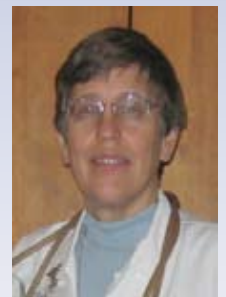
“Hope Clinic has remained remarkably faithful to its founding vision of providing free medical care to the poor. On this anniversary, I’d like us to recall another aspect of its founding experience—the experience of trusting God at all times, especially at crucial moments. Moments when a decision has to be made. Moments when the way forward isn’t clear. Moments when trust is difficult. This is something Hope Clinic has taught many of us to do.”



Jim Manney

Dr. Ellen Gryniewicz was one of the first physicians to volunteer at Hope Medical Clinic.

“When Hope Clinic was born from the charitable heart of Dr. Dan Heffernan, I, as one of his associates, was an interested bystander. I promptly got involved as a physician volunteer and have continued to serve the Saturday walk-in clinic ever since. Over the years I have seen patients at Hope, there have been many wonderful memories. I think one of my favorites involved a Korean family. In a common practice, the younger generation established in the U.S. brought their aging parents over but found that they had no insurance or resources for obtaining medical care. Thus, the parents started coming to Hope. The father, an erect, dignified man, became ill, and I diagnosed him with colon cancer. We arranged for surgery to be done, and he did very well. I became the wonder-doctor who had saved his life, as they frequently told me. But their respect was nothing to my respect for them when I found that the family was descended from one of the heroes of the early establishment of Christianity in Korea. What a privilege to serve such people!”



Ellen Gryniewicz



An early Hope board meeting with (from left) Jim Manney, Dr. Dan, Greg Peoples, Don Shelby, and Ron Ghormley.

Hope makes dough at 'Bakery for a Day'



From left: Chris Meath, a Great Harvest staff member, and Sue Asam knead dough at Great Harvest's benefit for Hope, "Bakery for a Day."

Feb. 25, 2007 was a blustery, icy, cold Sunday. That morning many of us thought, "Good day to stay in bed." Instead we pulled on our boots, wrapped ourselves up, and spent a joyful, warm, delicious day at Great Harvest Bread Company. Once again Dan and Janene Centurione, the generous owners of the Ann Arbor Great Harvest Bread Company, hosted a fund raiser for Hope Clinic at their bakery. Hope staff and volunteers got to help volunteers from the Great Harvest

staff knead the bread (we have the sore muscles to prove it), give out samples, and man the registers. All of the profits from sales that day were donated to Hope—approximately \$3,500! We give our special thanks to Dan, Janene and many of the Great Harvest Staff who volunteered to help on their day off. We also want to thank Remi Nair, who sold more than \$500 worth of bread to friends and family; Charlene Aldrich, who took pre-orders at her church for more than \$200; and the many others who took pre-orders from work, church, or family. Thank you to all of those who braved the weather to come and support the fund raiser. A big thank you goes to the Concordia interns who painted a fabulous mural advertising the fund raiser on the Great Harvest windows. And last but not least, thank you to the Hope staff and volunteers who gave so generously of their time that day. I'm sure that all of those who participated will agree that the warmth inside Great Harvest more than made up for the cold outside.

The fringe on the shawl

By Jean Horak

I recently heard a Messianic Jewish brother's "take" on the story of the woman who was bleeding and was healed just by touching the fringe on the edge of Jesus's garment (found in Matthew 9, Mark 5, and Luke 8). The fringe was probably part of Jesus's prayer shawl, commonly worn by Jews of the day, which has fringe that hangs out below the hem of outerwear. This shawl was a holy item, worn as part of God's commandment to the Jewish people to love and honor Him. In Jewish law, when something unclean (the woman who was bleeding) touched something sacred (the shawl), the sacred item was made unclean. However, because of God's New Covenant through Jesus, the sacred was able to "heal" what was unclean.

In many ways, the staff and volunteers at Hope are similar to that fringe. There was no inherent goodness or power to the fringe; it was made of cotton or wool by human hands. It certainly took no action that brought about any change in the woman. It didn't say the right words or invoke the correct scripture. In the same way, it's not the specific actions of the staff or volunteers at Hope that bring healing or comfort to those we serve. We are just vessels of God's Holy Spirit. What a relief! The responsibility to bring about healing is God's; we just need to be His willing instruments.

I hope you will consider joining us in being the "fringe" God can use to help His Beloved Poor here at Hope.

Volunteer needs

Below is a partial list of our current volunteer needs.

Medical Care: We need physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants to provide medical care to patients at the Medical Clinic. We especially need volunteers for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday during the day. We also need volunteers to work at our walk in clinics on Saturday mornings or Wednesday evenings.

Receptionists at Dental Clinic: We need volunteers to help at the Dental Clinic front desk on weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Duties include answering the phone, making appointments, and helping patients with paperwork.

Gardeners: With the coming of spring, the landscaping of all of our facilities needs some attention. We need volunteers to plant and maintain the areas through the summer months.

Weekend Meals: We need a head cook for the fourth Saturday every other month for two to three hours. Experience in cooking for large groups is helpful but not necessary. An individual, a small group, or a family could fill this position.

On-Call Help. We always need people to be "on call." They might help with mailings, fill in at the Food Bank, run the occasional errand, or help out at special events. The commitment can be as flexible as your availability.

If you are interested in volunteering in one of these capacities or would like to know about other volunteer opportunities at Hope, contact Jean Horak at 734-485-5595 or jhorak@thehopeclinic.org.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Friday, May 4** **25th Anniversary Celebration Dinner**, 6:30 p.m.
Travis Pointe Country Club
2829 Travis Pte. Rd., Ann Arbor
Honoring Dr. Dan and Bev Heffernan and celebrating 25 years of God's faithfulness to Hope
Admission: \$50 per person
- Sunday, May 6** **25th Anniversary Worship Service**, 4:00 p.m.
St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
401 W. Cross, Ypsilanti
Complimentary dinner following the service
- Thursday, June 28** **Ice Cream Social**, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Hope Center, 518 Harriet St., Ypsilanti
For our neighbors and community partners
- Friday, September 14** **Volunteer Celebration**, 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, September 17** **Golf Outing**, 11:00 a.m.
Travis Pointe Country Club
2829 Travis Pte. Rd., Ann Arbor

Thank you

We would like to express our special appreciation to the following businesses and organizations who made generous contributions to Hope's programs during the past three months.

- Bear Claw Coffee** and **Minute Maid/Coca-Cola** for donating beverages for the Knox Church benefit concert.
- Dexter Jazzercise** for the large donation of items for Hope's Care and Share Closet.
- St. Francis Catholic Church** for generous donations to the Food Bank and the Care and Share Closet.
- The Buhr Foundation** for a \$3,500 grant to upgrade high priority computer equipment.
- The Newman's Own Foundation** for a \$5,000 grant to the Medical Clinic.
- Stone School** and **Washtenaw Ave. Curves** for holding food drives to benefit Hope's Food Bank.

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