



**Hope After Care**

Jean Stephens spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on June 30. She enjoys her work as the Program Director for Hope After Care Program, a part of the Hope Net Ministries in Council Bluffs.

Jean graduated from Oakland Community College with an Associate's degree in Social Work. She received her Bachelor's Degree with a double

major in Biblical Studies and Psychology from William Tyndale College, which is also in Michigan.

Two years ago Jean began working with Hope Net Ministries to develop and oversee the Hope After Care Program which is for women who have been released from incarceration. The program is faith-based and a non-profit ministry in Council Bluffs. Hope Net operates two Sequels Thrift Stores. This program addresses poverty through Circles of Support. Since its inception, Hope After Care has expanded to include a women's weekly support group called the Winner's Circle, a weekly Overcomer's Bible Study, a Craft Class at the Women's Residential Correctional Facility, and a semi-monthly After Care class at the Pottawattamie County jail.

There is a great need for women who have been released from prison to have assistance to change their behavior and start a new life. Many lack clothing and transportation for jobs. Sequels helps with the clothing needs, but Jean says bicycles are needed for those who cannot drive to help with the transportation.

**Calendar**

- July 11 - Can Kennel – TBD time
- July 26 – Westfair help (noon – 3:00 and 3:00-6:00)
- Aug 1 – Can Kennel for Boy scouts – TBD time

**Birthdays**

- Jul 3 – Charlie Johnson
- Jul 14 - Wes Nelson
- Jul 14 – Gary Gutttau
- Jul 23 – Jerry Hempel
- Jul 27 – Jim Clausen

**Anniversaries**

- Jul 14 – Jeff & Mary Beth Jorgensen
- Jul 25 - Chuck & Kathy Nielsen

**Speakers**

- June 23 – Greg Witte, Risen Son Christian Village
- June 30 – Pending

**Programs**

- July – Jeff Jorgensen
- Aug – Arlyn Norris

At various meetings with these women in need, help is welcomed to assist with child care.

Jean also explained how important it is to immediately assist those who are just released before they return to previous behavior problems. If assistance is not offered drug dealers will again seek associations with those released from incarceration.

**Meeting Minutes**

Chuck Nielsen opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Keith Denton provided jokes. Dennis White offered the opening prayer.

Richard Vorthmann contributed to the Youth Fund for some good fishing. Jim Clausen contributed for his wedding anniversary. Mick and Judy Gutttau contributed for their 44<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Thursday.

Steve Irvin won the 50/50. Ward Chambers won the attendance drawing, but did not collect.

Cole Chapin collected his Optimist scholarship for \$300. He plans to Morningside College.

The Optimist Club (with some assistance) put up flags on July 3.



- Sept – Steve Irvin
- Oct – Chuck Nielsen
- Nov – Gary Gutttau
- Dec – Bill Vorthmann

**Prayers**

- July 14—Kirk Vorthmann
- July 21 — Judy Gutttau
- July 28 — Richard Vorthmann
- August 4 —
- August 11 — Ken Graham
- August 18 — Mick Gutttau
- August 25 —
- September 1 — Dennis White
- September 8 —
- September 15 — Gary Funkhouser
- September 22—Kirk Vorthmann
- September 29 —
- October 6 — Steve Irvin