



**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

# Welcome to Hope

## SUNDAYS

9:15AM—Worship  
10:30AM—Family Bible Hour  
4:00PM—Spanish Worship w/Communion

## WEDNESDAYS

6:30PM—Worship

### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT:**

***“Anchored in Christ, Empowered by the Spirit, Connecting People to Jesus”***

*We are glad you are taking the time to worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with us this weekend! We pray God’s blessings on your worship and time spent among us at Hope Lutheran Church! We ask you to please take the time to fill in the Friendship pad (be sure to give us your name and address) and feel free to indicate any prayer concerns on the reverse side of the pad. We are a “Family-Friendly Church” and encourage the participation of children in our worship. However, we realize there are times when children can become disruptive to other worshippers, and for that reason there is a cry room located in the back of the church for your use. Children’s worship bags are available in the narthex for your use during the service (see an usher or elder). Please return the bag following the service to the “Worship Bag Tree.” We encourage you to join us for any and all activities at Hope in the week ahead!*

***IMPORTANT NOTES:*** *for the sanctity of our worship and the benefit of those around you, please refrain from excessive talking in the narthex and sanctuary, and turn off all cell phones, pagers, etc. Please time entrances and exits during congregational singing to minimize distraction to our worshipping community. Following our worship, please make every effort to leave God’s House just as you found it. Please do not bring coffee, cans of soda or bottled water into the sanctuary for your use before or even during the service. Also, please be sure to remove any “used” tissues from the pews or hymnal racks. Your help in keeping God’s house neat and clean will most certainly be appreciated! Thank you!*

*Hope: Anchored in Christ*



**Please turn off or silence your cell phone and NO food or drinks in the Sanctuary.**

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*Activities This Week at Hope:*

<b>Sunday 7/23</b>	9:15	Worship
	10:30	Family Bible Hour ( <i>snacks: open</i> )
	4:00	Spanish Worship w/Communion
<b>Monday 7/24</b>	5:15	Fellowship Dinner
	6:00	Mighty Fortress VBS Fun!
	7:30	Young Adults @ Starbucks
<b>Tuesday 7/25</b>	12:00	Staff Meeting
	5:15	Fellowship Dinner
	6:00	Mighty Fortress VBS Fun!
<b>Wednesday 7/26</b>	5:15	Fellowship Dinner
	6:00	Mighty Fortress VBS Fun!
	6:30	Living Hope Worship
<b>Thursday 7/27</b>	5:15	Fellowship Dinner
	6:00	Mighty Fortress VBS Fun!
<b>Friday 7/28</b>	5:15	Fellowship Dinner
	6:00	Mighty Fortress VBS Fun!
<b>Sunday 7/30</b>	9:15	Worship w/Communion
	10:30	Family Bible Hour ( <i>snacks: open</i> )
	4:00	Spanish Worship w/Communion

*Worship Attendance / Communion:***Wednesday, July 12, 2017****Worship: 6:30: 29/27****Sunday, July 16, 2017:****Worship: 9:15: 143/120****FBH: Adults: 39 Youth: 6 Children: 7****Spanish Worship: 4:00: 26/19****Offerings—General Fund: \$7,138.73***Stewardship Perspective:*

**Romans 8:18** “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.” It is very easy to get caught up in the present and lose track of our ultimate destiny in the Kingdom of God. St. Paul encourages us to keep eternity in mind. This certainly has an application to our support for the Gospel – if we keep our focus on “the glory to be revealed” we will see our tithes and offerings in a new light.

*Large Print editions of our Sunday worship folders are available from the ushers. If you are in need of one, don't hesitate to ask!*



July 23, 2017

## **AS WE GATHER**

*With the whole creation we groan together in birthing pains, waiting for the redemption of all things. Things are not how they were intended to be. We are not home yet. This sad state of affairs is the result of people who are not God playing God. The devil is in on this, sowing weeds throughout the field of this world. But there is no God besides God the Holy Trinity, not in heaven above nor on earth below—not you, not me, not anyone. The real God has appointed that we and all humanity are saved in hope through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our true home is the kingdom of God introduced by Jesus. Along our journey home, even when we do not know what to pray, our hope is sustained by the intercessions of God the Holy Spirit, whose groanings on our behalf are deeper than words can tell.*

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **RINGING OF THE BELLS**

## **PRELUDE AND MEDITATION** "Thrive"

*The sanctuary is a place of meditation and preparation for worship. Therefore, as the prelude begins, we cease our conversations and quiet our hearts to converse silently with God.*

## OPENING SONG

### "Thrive"

Verses—Praise Team; Pre-Chorus, Chorus & Bridge—Congregation

<sup>1</sup> *Oh—, Oh—, Here in this worn and weary land / where many a dream has died...  
Like a tree planted by the water / we never will run dry.*

*(Pre-Chorus)*

**So, living water flowing through / God, we thirst for more of You.  
Fill our hearts, and flood our souls / with one desire:**

*(Chorus)*

**Just to know You, and to make You known. We lift Your name on high.  
Shine like the sun, make darkness run and hide...  
We know we were made for so much more than ordinary lives...  
It's time for us to more than just survive: We were made to thrive.**

<sup>2</sup> *Oh—, Oh—, Into Your Word we're digging deep / to know our Father's heart...  
Into the world we're reaching out / to show them who you are.*

*(Pre-Chorus) (Chorus)*

*(Bridge)* **Joy unspeakable, faith unsinkable, love unstoppable,  
anything is possible. (Repeat)**

*(Singing higher)*

**Joy unspeakable, faith unsinkable, love unstoppable,  
anything is possible. (Repeat)**

*(Chorus)*

*(Ending)* *Oh—, Oh—, Oh—, Oh—, We were made to thrive.*

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## INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

**P:** Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: "Who is like Me?"

**C:** **You are the first and You are the last; besides You there is no God.**

**P:** Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it?

**C:** **Behold, we are Your witnesses!**

P: Is there a God besides Me?

**C: O Lord, we know no Rock besides You, and the earth is full of Your steadfast love.**

P: Only God most high,

**C: the earth is full of Your steadfast love, but we have turned away to the many passing loves that arrest our attention. Forgetting there is no god besides You, we often think we know what is best for ourselves and for others. But we don't. And so we groan in pain with the consequences of our sins. Hear our cry for Jesus' sake and have mercy on us.**

P: Beloved in Christ, God—the only God—hears your cry for mercy, blotting out your transgressions for His own sake and remembering your sins no more. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **SONG OF PRAISE**

*"Shout to the North"*

*ABS (1) 163*

**Men of faith, rise up and sing of the great and glorious King,  
You are strong when you feel weak in your brokenness complete.**

*(Chorus)*

**Shout to the north and the south, sing to the east and the west;  
Jesus is Savior to all, Lord of heaven and earth.**

**Rise up, women of the truth, stand and sing to broken hearts,  
Who can know the healing pow'r of our awesome King of love.**

*(Chorus)*

*(Bridge)*

**We've been through fire, we've been through rain,  
We've been refined by the pow'r of His name;  
We've fallen deeper in love with You,  
You've burned the truth on our lips. *(Chorus)***

**Rise up church with broken wings, fill this place with songs again  
Of our God who reigns on high, by His grace again we'll fly.**

*(Chorus)*

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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that,

**C: ever mindful of Your final judgment,**

P: we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter;

**C: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,**

P: who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,

**C: one God, now and forever. Amen.**



† **SERVICE OF THE WORD** †

## FIRST READING

*Isaiah 44:6-8 (p.604)*

*("Is there a God besides Me?")*

<sup>6</sup>Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. <sup>7</sup>Who is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen. <sup>8</sup>Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

*Romans 8:18-27 (p.944)*

*(The Spirit helps our weakness as we wait in hope with all creation.)*

<sup>18</sup>For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup>For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of

childbirth until now. <sup>23</sup>And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. <sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSE** *"Word of God Speak"* *ABS (3) 66*  
**I'm finding myself... at a loss for words....and the funny thing is...it's okay.**  
**The last thing I need...is to be heard...But to hear...what You would say.**

*(Chorus)* **Word of God speak. Would You pour down like rain,  
Washing my eyes to see...Your majesty.  
To be still and know...That You're in this place,  
Please let me stay and rest, In Your holiness. Word of God speak. *(pause)***

**I'm finding myself...in the midst of You...Beyond the music, beyond the noise.**  
**All that I need.... Is to be with You...And in the quiet...hear Your voice.**

*(Chorus x2)*

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**HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 (p.818)*  
*(The parable of the weeds of the field)*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the thirteenth chapter.

C: *(Spoken)* **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>24</sup>He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, <sup>25</sup>but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. <sup>26</sup>So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. <sup>27</sup>And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' <sup>28</sup>He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' <sup>29</sup>But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the

reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”<sup>36</sup> Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.”<sup>37</sup> He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man.<sup>38</sup> The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one,<sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels.<sup>40</sup> Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age.<sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers,<sup>42</sup> and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.<sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: *(Spoken)* **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      *"I'm But a Stranger Here"*      *LSB 748*

**SERMON**      *"Worth the Wait"*      *Romans 8:18-27*  
*Rev. Shea Pennington*

**CREEDAL RESPONSE**      *"We Believe"*  
*Praise Team—verses & bridge; Congregation—chorus*

*In this time of desperation... When all we know is doubt and fear...  
There is only one foundation:.... We believe.... We believe—....  
In this broken generation... When all is dark, You help us see...  
There is only one salvation:... we believe... We believe—...*

*(Chorus 1)* **We believe in God the Father. / We believe in Jesus Christ. /  
We believe— in the Holy Spirit, / and He’s given us new life...  
We believe— in the crucifixion. / We believe that He conquered death.  
We believe— in the resurrection, / and He’s coming back again / We believe.**

*Let our faith be more than anthems... greater than the songs we sing...  
And in our weakness and temptations... we believe... we believe—*

*(Chorus 2)* **We believe in God the Father. / We believe in Jesus Christ. /  
We believe— in the Holy Spirit, / and He’s given us new life...  
We believe— in the crucifixion. / We believe that He conquered death.  
We believe— in the resurrection, / and He’s coming back again.**

*(Bridge) Let the lost be found, the dead be raised; in the here and now / let love invade.  
Let the church live loud! Our God will save. We believe! We believe!  
And the gates of hell will not prevail, for the pow'r of God / has torn the veil.  
Now we know Your love / will never fail. We believe! / We believe—*

*(Final Chorus) **We believe in God the Father / We believe in Jesus Christ /  
We believe— in the Holy Spirit / and He's given us new life...  
We believe— in the crucifixion / We believe that He conquered death  
We believe— in the resurrection / and He's coming back  
He's coming back again... He's coming back again...  
We believe... we believe!***

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## **CELEBRATION OF FRIENDSHIP**

*As the offerings are received, please sign the register in the pews, whether you are a member of Hope Lutheran or a visitor. The person at the end of the pew should start and then pass it along. Thank you for making worship with us a priority this Lord's Day.*

## **GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

*Our tithes are our regular, top priority, proportionate, grateful gifts to the Lord for the work of the gospel. Our offerings are our special gifts for special causes over and above our tithes.*

## **VOLUNTARY**

*"Heaven Is My Home"*

*Arthur S. Sullivan*

## **PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

**P:** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Lord, continue to raise up witnesses in this and every place to faithfully proclaim Your Word. Let Your Church continue to be the good soil that produces wheat for Your harvest. Bless all our pastors and church workers as they sow in the fields that You have given them. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C:** **hear our prayer.**

**P:** Redeemer and Lord of hosts, the future is in Your hands, and only You know what is to come. Remove from us fear of the unknown and the trepidation that uncertainly brings. Keep us mindful that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed in us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C:** **hear our prayer.**

P: Lord of all, bless our nation and its citizens. Give us good leadership, satisfying work, loving families, and a quiet and peaceable life that glorifies Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: The whole earth is Yours, O Lord, and You have charged us with its care. Make us good stewards of Your creation until that time when You set it free from its bondage to decay and give it to us anew in the kingdom of Your Son. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of all compassion, look over the sick and all who suffer from any malady of mind or body. We pray this morning particularly for *Ernie Reaume, Flint Seth, Rose Thomas, Libby Voigtmann, and LeRoy Worthington*. Give them patience and endurance in their trials and, if it be Your will, return them to health. Be especially with those who live in nursing homes and care facilities. Give them an unfailing faith in You and a lively hope for the redemption that You promise. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: We join our prayer with the unending prayers of those who have gone before us and are now with You. Together the Church in heaven and the Church on earth await the time when the righteous will shine like the sun in Your Kingdom, O Father, for You live and reign with Your Son and Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

**C: Amen.**

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C: 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 and ever. Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

P: The LORD bless you and keep you.  
The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The LORD look upon you with favor and † give you peace

**C: Amen.**

P: We are now entering the mission field!

C: **'Here am I! Send me!'**

**CLOSING SONG**

*"In Christ Alone"*

*ABS (2) 42 | LSB 576*

**In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm thro' the fiercest drought and storm.**

**What heights of love, what depths of peace,**

**When fears are stilled, when striving cease.**

**My comforter, my all in all, Here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**In Christ alone who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe.**

**This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save.**

**Till on that cross, as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;**

**For ev'ry sin on Him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.**

**There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;**

**Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again.**

**And as He stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,**

**For I am His and He is mine—Bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

*(tune: LSB 576)*

**My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;**

**No merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.**

**All other ground is sinking sand.**

**When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found,**

**Clothed in His righteousness alone, Redeemed to stand before His throne!**

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.**

**All other ground is sinking sand.**

*(tune: In Christ Alone)*

**No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the pow'r of Christ in me;**

**From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.**

**No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand;**

**Till He returns or calls me home, Here in the pow'r of Christ I stand.**



**JULY 24-28**

**5:15PM—Dinner**

**6:00-8:30—VBS FUN**

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Classes for ALL ages—  
Preschool thru Adult!

*Register now at*

**[www.HopePlantCity.com](http://www.HopePlantCity.com)**

**ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS—please attend our  
short meeting TODAY at 11:30 in Fellowship Hall**

## Connecting Points

**TODAY:** we continue in the Sundays after Pentecost or “the long green season.” The Sundays after Pentecost will take us to the end of the church year in November. During this season, you will note how the Gospels take us from the life of our Lord to putting His teachings into practice in our daily lives as we live as Jesus disciples. The color of the season is GREEN~ the color of growth as we are reminded to be constantly growing in the grace and love of our Lord.



**IT'S IN THERE:** That's right YOUR **August** issue of “Hope’s Anchor” was emailed to you **this past week** for those who receive their newsletter via email; for those who request a “printed copy,” be sure to check your mailbox **today**. Be sure to share your **August** Anchor with others so they see what God is doing among us!



Hurricane  
Preparedness  
Are YOU Ready?

**UNDER THE MAILBOXES:** for your taking is the current issue of the *Disaster Preparedness Guide for Elders*, produced by the *Florida Department of Elder Affairs*. As we are in the **early days of the 2017 hurricane season**, be sure to take a copy!



WORSHIP

**BE SURE TO INVITE:** family and friends to our summer worship **each Sunday at 9:15AM**. What a great way for you to share with others what God is doing among us as we join together as God's family for worship. Remember—don't let your praise and worship take a vacation **this summer!**

**LET THE FUN BEGIN!:** That's right, **TOMORROW night** starts another amazing, very exciting Vacation Bible School (VBS) here at Hope as we celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation under the theme “*Mighty Fortress*.” Being a part of VBS is ALWAYS an experience to remember— make a fantastic memory for yourself now and be a part of the fun or join in the adult Bible study with *Libby Voigtman*! Either way, as helper or participant your fun is guaranteed to happen! (**Dinner: 5:15PM; VBS fun: 6:00PM**)



**HOPE'S YOUNG ADULTS:** gather on **Monday evenings 7:30PM @ Starbucks in Plant City**. So, if you're a Young Adult (age 19-39) and like fun & fellowship or just coffee then join us **Monday nights** at Starbucks.

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED:** on **Tuesday from 12:00—1:00PM** for the regular meeting, prayer time, and study of our Hope staff. During this time, there will be no one available to answer phones or assist should you come by. Therefore, we ask that you please time your calls and visits accordingly. The Hope families for whom our staff will pray **this week:** Lee & Sally Kimbrell; Tom & Nancy Kohr; John & Donna Koren; Steven Landers; Brad & Judy Landis; Del & Sue Larkham; Wendell & Pam Lattz; and the members and staff of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Zephyrhills. If ANYONE has ANY prayer concerns for our staff, please be sure to contact Jessica in the Church Office.



**ABOUT OUR WEDNESDAY WORSHIP:** Yes, our **Wednesday** worship **WILL** take place in our sanctuary **this Wednesday at 6:30pm**. And yes, **following worship**, you are invited to stick around a bit and experience some of the fun (and great snacks) of VBS before you head home. We look forward to you being a part of our Living Hope Worship on **Wednesday!**



**WEDNESDAY OPPORTUNITIES:** for *Living Hope Worship* continue **this summer** at Hope. Worship **begins at 6:30PM and ends at 7:30PM every Wednesday**. Take advantage of this great opportunity for a mid-week faith lift of Word and sacrament as you continue on your journey in the mission field!



**A PLACE OF HEALING:** This NEW Bible study meets **Thursdays at 10:30am** in the *Stephen Ministry Room*. Join us as we take an in-depth look at wrestling with the mysteries of suffering, pain, and God's sovereignty. All are welcome...and invite a friend.



**IN OUR PRAYERS:** We remember the members of *Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Lithia* as they will join together **next Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>** for their final worship as a congregation. Please keep the members of *Lamb of God* in your thoughts and prayers as they search for a new church home and family. And be sure to welcome ALL visitors to our family.



**TEACHER/STAFF RECOGNITION & PRAYERS:** for those who serve in our public school system will take place **during our morning worship on July 30**. If you serve in the public school system, be sure to invite others to join you here at *Hope* for this special time as you begin a new academic year in Jesus name.



**MINISTRY TEAM MEETINGS RESUME:** Team members, please note your team's meeting:



Fellowship—**Tuesday, August 1 @ 5:30PM**, Pastor Pfeffer's Office  
Missions & Outreach—**Tuesday, August 1 @ 6:30PM**, Fellowship Hall  
Elders—**Thursday, August 3 @ 6:30PM**, Conference Room  
Trustees—**Saturday, August 5 @ 8:00AM**, Around Campus  
Youth—**Sunday, August 6 @ 11:45AM**, Fellowship Hall  
Board of Directors—**Thursday, August 10 @ 6:30PM**, Conference Room  
Christian Growth—**Sunday, August 13 @ 11:45AM**, Fellowship Hall  
Human Care—**Sunday, August 13 @ 11:45AM**, Fellowship Hall

Remember, the Lord's work here at Hope is counting on you—and so are we!

Ministry Team Leaders: PLEASE be sure to email *Jessica* ([hopepcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:hopepcsecretary@gmail.com)) your meeting notes **by TUESDAY, August 8<sup>th</sup> (NOON)** for our BOD meeting.



**FLOWER OPENING:** on the flower chart in the Narthex for YOU to adorn our Lord's altar with flowers on **Sunday August 6**. As a reminder, there is a limit to 2 bouquets (\$15.00 each), and **following our Sunday morning worship**, you may take your flowers with you or leave them here to be distributed during hospital OR shut-in visits.



**BLESSING OF BACK PACKS:** As we recognize and pray for the many teachers from our congregation, we will do the same for ALL the students in our congregation (pre-school through college—home school, charter school, private school, or public school) on **Sunday August 6**. Be sure to bring your backpack to church with you for this special time!



**HOUSING NEEDED:** on **Sunday, August 27**, we will welcome *Dr. Martin Luther* to our worship service to proclaim God's Word. Actually, it's *Rev. Gary Schuschke*, Associate Pastor at *St. Luke's, Oviedo*. His portrayal of *Luther* is spellbinding and amazing to say the least (you will want to *INVITE* friends—*this is most certainly true*). However, he does need housing for the evening of **Saturday, August 26**; if you can house *Pastor Schuschke*, please contact *Pastor Pfeffer* **ASAP**. Thanks for your assistance!



**BABY BOTTLE UPDATE:** Thank you Hope! We have been notified by the *Pregnancy Care Center of Plant City* that **to date** a total of \$195.93 has been received through your Spirit motivated giving during the *Pregnancy Care Center's* baby bottle drive from *Mother's Day—Father's Day*.

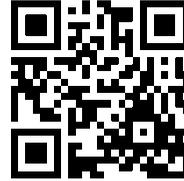
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*Not getting Hope's E-Blasts or Newsletters?*

Scan these:



**E-Blast**



**Newsletter**

... or go to [hopeplantcity.com](http://hopeplantcity.com) to sign up!

**Your Stewardship & Human Care Ministry Team  
would appreciate donations of the following  
to be shared with our teachers for use with their students:**

**ballpoint pens  
boxes of tissues  
colored pencils  
composition books  
crayons  
folders with  
pockets  
glue sticks  
hand sanitizer**

**notebook paper  
pencil erasers  
scissors  
single large  
erasers  
spiral notebooks  
washable markers  
#2 pencils**

***Deadline: July 30***





# YOU CAN READ THE BIBLE ON YOUR PHONE BECAUSE OF LUTHER.

**W**e love and treasure the Word of God. The Scriptures are our sole source for doctrine and practice. The Scriptures deliver Christ to us, and for this we rejoice.

Luther desired that every person could have access to the Word of God. He translated the Bible into German so that every person could read it. A result of Luther's translation was the proliferation of Bible translations, and today, the multiplicity of media through which God's Word is freely available.

The Word is to be read, taught and proclaimed. The Word informs us of God's love and instructs us in His will. Just as the Word made flesh came for the whole world, so God's written Word is given for all people.



**REFORMATION**  
2017 It's *Still* All About  
**Jesus**

**Register Today!** President's Equip Conference

**September 28-30, 2017**



Be part of an energizing three-day event with Florida-Georgia pastors, educators, DCEs, music ministers and lay members, participating in:

- ➔ 60 workshops for church professionals & lay volunteers, with topics ranging from youth ministry, fundraising, strategic planning and social media to fabulous family nights, insights for church treasurers, greeter and usher ministries and more
- ➔ Fellowship including an opening night dessert reception, Friday evening banquet and regional gatherings
- ➔ Uplifting closing worship service

Registration through August 11th is \$100 per person  
Registration August 12th to 31st is \$150 per person  
Registration September 1st and after is \$200 per person

**CHURCH VOLUNTEER LAY MEMBER REBATE OFFER:**

The first 200 laypersons (non-professional church workers) to register for the President's Equip Conference will receive a \$50 rebate, with congregations eligible for up to \$500 in rebates. Rebate forms will be available at the close of the Conference on Saturday, September 30. Rebates will be processed at the Florida-Georgia District office after the conference and will be issued to all qualifying congregations. Only original rebate forms will be accepted and processed. Photocopies will not be considered. More information: visit our website for details: [flgadistrict.org](http://flgadistrict.org)

**EQUIPPED** with tools. **EMPOWERED** with others. **ENGAGED** in the world.

To register and for details on workshops & speakers visit  
[flgadistrict.org](http://flgadistrict.org)

# FAMILY BIBLE HOUR Sundays @ 10:30am

**ADULTS: GODCONNECTS:** a Lutheran Hour Ministries video/discussion series explaining the Christian faith in a way that makes it easy to invite a friend, family member, or church visitor. Plain language and helpful illustrations present God's work of salvation in a concise manner; ideal for those with questions about sin, judgment, redemption, Jesus, the believer's life, and more. This class is also great for anyone interested in becoming a member of Hope who has not been part of a Lutheran Church.

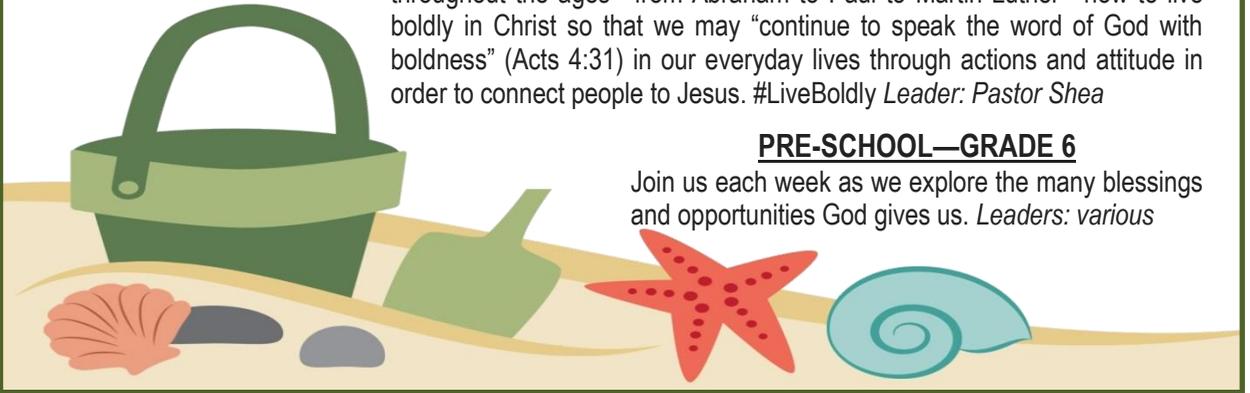
*Leader: Pastor Pfeffer*

## YOUNG ADULTS & GRADES 7—12

**LIVE.BOLDLY:** Join us in 2017, as we look and learn from Christians throughout the ages—from Abraham to Paul to Martin Luther—how to live boldly in Christ so that we may “continue to speak the word of God with boldness” (Acts 4:31) in our everyday lives through actions and attitude in order to connect people to Jesus. #LiveBoldly *Leader: Pastor Shea*

## PRE-SCHOOL—GRADE 6

Join us each week as we explore the many blessings and opportunities God gives us. *Leaders: various*



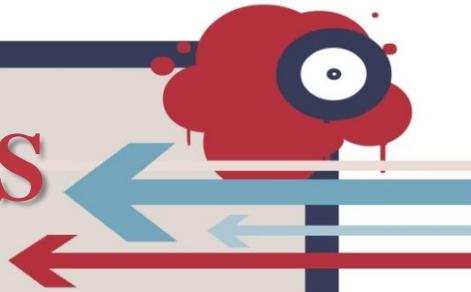
# WEDNESDAYS at Hope

6:30PM

## LIVING HOPE WORSHIP

Our Wednesday evening worship continues this summer as we celebrate the goodness and mercy of our God in an alternative worship format and style. Holy Communion is celebrated each Wednesday. Join us for a relaxed, celebrative worship alternative!





# YOUTH DATES

July 22—Youth @ Feeding the Hungry; 5PM

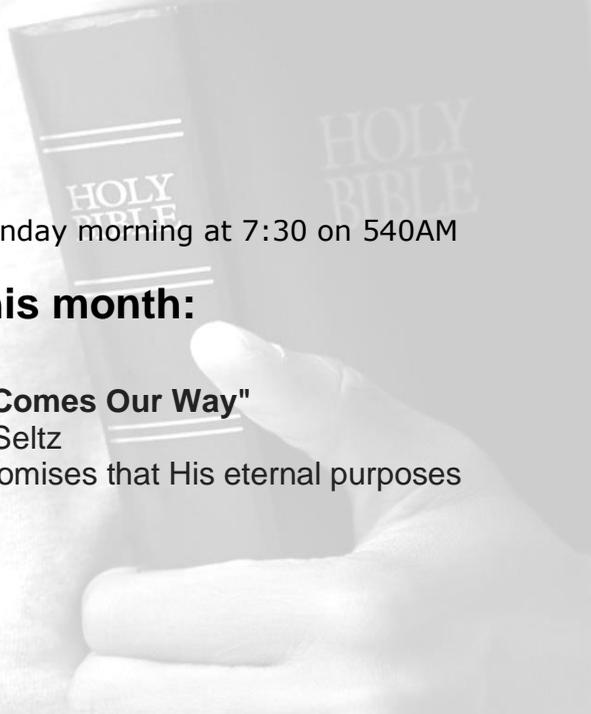
August 2—Beach Day @ Siesta Key; 9AM-7:30PM



Grades 6 through 12—friends are always welcome!  
Contact Pastor Shea for more info: [hopepcpastorshea@gmail.com](mailto:hopepcpastorshea@gmail.com)



The  
Lutheran  
Hour



can be heard EVERY Sunday morning at 7:30 on 540AM

## Topics for this month:

**July 30: "Confidence to Face Whatever Comes Our Way"**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

No matter what life throws our way, God promises that His eternal purposes can never be thwarted. (Romans 8:28-39)

# *In Our Thoughts and Prayers*

**SHUT-INS:**

Melva Dennison  
Bonnie Genrich  
Tom & Nancy Kohr

Dorothy Maltzahn  
Tom & Rose Thomas  
Richard Van Matre

**LEADERS:**

Pastor Dean & Liz Pfeffer  
Pastor Shea Pennington

Hope Staff  
Hope's Ministries

LCMS Synod & District  
Our Nation & Armed Forces

## *Family and Friends of Hope*

**NEW REQUESTS:**

Tim Gates	mourning loss of ex-wife/mother of children
Cindy Kemp	traveling to/from India & China (7/21—8/19)
Joanie Reiter	mother of Kathy Drapp—recovering from fall; broken rib
Libby Voigtmann	recovering from hospitalization

**CURRENT REQUESTS:**

Jim & Lana Baldwin & family	mourning sudden death of granddaughter Stephanie Leamon friends of David & Dana Jones
Cindy Kemp	recovering; knee surgery; stem cell therapy
Family of Larry Morrell	friend of Tom, Lynn & Kristin Reagin—mourning his death
Ernie Reaume	health concerns
Loretta Scott & family	family concerns
Flint Seth	recovering; surgery
Lauretta Tennyson	health concerns
Tessa	Adkins family member—difficult pregnancy
LeRoy Worthington	recovering; broken vertebrae in lower back

**BATTLING CANCER:**

Jennifer Barkley	Austin Dobbs	JoAnne Hayashi	Victor Miranda	Sherrie
Tom Battling	Ginnie Donaldson	Lori Heneka	Jim Moore	Al Simmons
Laura Blake	Donna	Jeanette Herndon	Joy Neely	Judy Strait
CanDee Brandon	Casey Doyle	Delores Huseth	Thomas Onderdonk	Chuck Sullivan
John Brom	Jace Driggers	Maggi Hutto	Sharyl Pallard	Rose Thomas
Laura Brom	Kori Dunke	Dale Jarvis	John Rademacher	Mr. Wells
Bob Broshelle	Marcus Elam	Dot LaBar	Alan Rauner	Tom
Ken Buschbacher	Ellen	Delores Lopresto	Andrea Reichard	Millie Wetz
Chantal	Joy Fritzke	Lucille Luedke	DeAnne Reiter	Laura Winkel
Carol Chapman	Gail	Pat Mailloux	Sara	Candy Wolfe
Christie	Idele Green	David Miller	Abbey Sedlacek	Rick Ward
Alice Correia	Lynnie Green			Heather Whitehurst

## *Serving in the Military* (R—Reserves)

Zachary Allen	Trevor Dahlke	Joshua Kinkead—R	Stephen Olliff—R
Alex Almaguer	Lorrie Daniell—R	Brad Landis	Derek Quackenbush
Zachary Bennett	Stephen Daniell—R	Bobby Martin	Justin Rappa
Matt Bracken	Joshua Gross	Aaron Morley	Ryan Sonnenberg
Matthew Clissold	Erika Grosskopf	Donnie Pittman	Caleb Strand
Rachael Clissold			Mike Szostkiewicz—R



*"Think of us in this way as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries."*

1Corinthians 4:1

**SERVING THE LORD THIS SUNDAY (7/23/2017) ARE:**

Bell Ringer 9:15/Alex Attalla  
Greeters 9:15/Harold & Tami Hastings  
Lector 9:15/Cathie Warner  
Elder on Duty 9:15/Lonnie Bertsch; 4:00/Lonnie Bertsch  
Flowers Dahlke family  
Offerings Richard & Mary Decker  
Ushers Team 3  
8:00/Lonnie Bertsch,\* Diane Bertsch, Tom Reagin

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by  
the Dahlke family in memory of Joan's birthday*

**SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEDNESDAY (7/26/2017) ARE:**

Lector 6:30/Carl Bergner  
Elder on Duty/Communion Assistant 6:30/Lonnie Bertsch

**SERVING OUR LORD NEXT SUNDAY (7/30/2017) ARE:**

Bell Ringer 9:15/Savannah Gembala  
Greeters 9:15/Jim & Karen Szostkiewicz  
Acolyte 9:15/Bryan Greatens  
Lector 9:15/John Koren  
Elder on Duty 9:15/Nick Trivunovich; 4:00/Pastor Shea  
Communion Assistant 9:15/Nick Trivunovich  
Flowers Attalla & Pfeffer families  
Offerings Alison Reaume & Cathie Warner  
Ushers Team 1  
8:00/Wayne Warner,\* David Booher, David Niver, Jeff Reaume

**SERVING OUR LORD THIS MONTH OF JULY:**

Altar Guild Liz Pfeffer  
Nurse/HMT Member Joyce Van Matre