



Welcome to Hope

SUNDAYS

9:15AM—Worship w/Live-Stream

10:30AM—Family Bible Hour

4:00PM—Spanish Worship w/Communion

WEDNESDAYS

6:30PM—Living Hope 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 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. 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:

Sunday 9/26	9:15	Worship
	10:30	Family Bible Hour
	4:00	Spanish Worship w/Communion
Monday 9/27	5:30	Moving Hope
	5:30	Bell Choir
	6:30	Choir
Wednesday 9/29	8:30	Construction Meeting
	6:30	Living Hope Worship w/Communion
	7:15	Spanish Kids ZOOM
	8:00	Spanish ZOOM Prayer & Bible Study
Thursday 9/30	7:00	Bible Study Fellowship
Saturday 10/2	8:00	Trustees Workday
Sunday 10/3	9:15	Worship w/Communion
	10:30	Family Bible Hour
	4:00	Spanish Worship w/Communion

Worship Attendance / Communion:

Sunday, September 19, 2021

Total Offerings (General & BHFTF): \$7,565.00

Stewardship Perspective:

Mark 9:45 – “And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell.” So, what is causing us to sin? Lust? Greed? Fear? It’s better to cut “it” off! We need the Lord’s help to do this, and you are in the right place this Lord’s Day to receive that help through Word and Sacrament!





September 26, 2021

AS WE GATHER

God's grace is always abundant; it goes beyond the limits we might set. When seventy elders are supposed to report to Moses to help him, two remain in the camp. But the Spirit rests on them! In the Gospel, the disciples following Jesus on the way to Jerusalem complain. A non-disciple is able to cast out demons in His name! And Jesus tells them not to stop him. His grace even includes us despite our inability to do His will. Confident of our Lord's return, the Epistle urges us to serve one another, healing, praying, cheering up, confessing, and forgiving. Jesus says we are as valuable as salt for one another, preserving our relationship to Him. "Have salt in yourselves," He says, "and be at peace with one another."

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELLS

PRELUDE

"A Mighty Fortress"

sett'g: Jacob B. Weber

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP

- P: Come, my friends, and sing a new song to the Lord! God is here! God is now! It is time to celebrate!
- C: Let everyone sing to Him and tell the nations of His glory and all the miracles He has done; for the Lord is great and most worthy of praise!**
- P: My friends, come worship the Lord for He alone is holy. Bow down before Him and give Him the glory due His name.
- C: Bring your offering of praise into His house and worship the mighty God—Father, Son and Spirit.**
- P: We worship our Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier.
- C: We worship the triune God in whom all power and majesty and glory reign now and forever more!**
- P: Let us rejoice as we enter this house of the Lord and let us lift our voices in songs and praise our gracious God.

OPENING HYMN

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

LSB 657



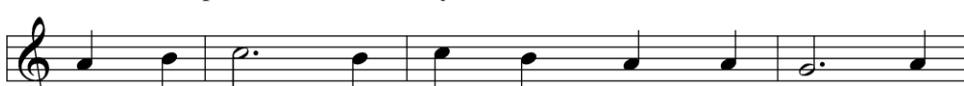
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who



to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
 your us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not
 fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons



va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
 self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
 o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle
 of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,



work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
 hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
 we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
 child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They



arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

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 Text (sts. 1s-4s) and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

C: **Amen.**

P: I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;

C: **I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

P: May my meditation be pleasing to Him,

C: **for I rejoice in the LORD.**

P: We enjoy singing praises to God, but we truly need Him to look down on us in mercy. So often we fail to follow the directives for Christian living, which we will

read about in today's Epistle. So James urges, "Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed." Let us ask God for grace and mercy. (*Silence for reflection.*) James writes, "Be patient...until the coming of the Lord... Do not grumble against one another, brothers... Let your 'yes' be yes and your 'no' be no... Is anyone among you sick? ... Pray over him."

C: We confess our impatience, our lack of love for our brothers and sisters in Christ, and our words that do not always reflect the love You have for us. We have sinned in thought, word, and deed. Heavenly Father, our only hope is in Your grace and mercy. Forgive us for Jesus' sake.

P: God has cured our sickness of sin by sending His Son to die in our place. He values us and calms our fears, saying, "Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace." As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: May the glory of the LORD endure forever;

C: may the LORD rejoice in His works. Bless the LORD, O my soul! Praise the LORD!

SONG OF PRAISE

"To God Be the Glory"

TOSB 241

To God be the glory, great things He hath done, So loved He the world that
He gave us His Son. Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the lifegate that all may go in.

(Chorus) Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord. Let the people rejoice! O come to the Father,
thro' Jesus the Son, And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, To every believer
the promise of God; The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives. *(Chorus)*

Great things He hath taught us, Great things He hath done, And great our
rejoicing thro' Jesus the Son; But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. *(Chorus)*

"To God Be the Glory", Fanny J. Crosby | William Howard Doane, Public Domain, All rights reserved, CCLI License # 759305

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, You want nothing to separate us from Your grace and mercy.

C: Grant that we realize how valuable You consider us and then seek to be at peace with one another;

P: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Make This Church a Welcome Place”



✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Numbers 11:4–6, 10–16, 24–29

(The Holy Spirit even comes upon two men in the camp.)

⁴ Now the rabble that was among them had a strong craving. And the people of Israel also wept again and said, “Oh that we had meat to eat! ⁵ We remember the fish we ate in Egypt that cost nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic. ⁶ But now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.” ¹⁰ Moses heard the people weeping throughout their clans, everyone at the door of his tent. And the anger of the LORD blazed hotly, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹ Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you dealt ill with your servant? And why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹² Did I conceive all this people? Did I give them birth, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a nursing child,’ to the land that you swore to give their fathers? ¹³ Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they weep before me and say, ‘Give us meat, that we may eat.’ ¹⁴ I am not able to carry all this people alone; the burden is too heavy for me. ¹⁵ If you will treat me like this, kill me at once, if I find favor in your sight, that I may not see my wretchedness.” ¹⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them, and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you. ²⁴ So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. And he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tent. ²⁵ Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it. ²⁶ Now two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the Spirit rested on them. They were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷ And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸ And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, “My lord Moses, stop them.” ²⁹ But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

James 5:13–20

(James outlines what Christians ought to do for one another.)

¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit. ¹⁹ My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, ²⁰ let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE

LSB 952

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!' written below each staff. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody.

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HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 9:38–50

(Jesus teaches how much God values all who have a relationship with His Son.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

C: *(Sung)* **Glory to You, O Lord!**

³⁸ John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” ³⁹ But Jesus said, “Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰ For the one who is not against us is for us. ⁴¹ For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward. ⁴² “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. ⁴³ And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵ And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷ And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes

HYMN OF RESPONSE "Church of God, Elect and Glorious"

LSB 646



1 Church of God, e - lect and glo - rious, Ho - ly
 2 God has called you out of dark - ness In - to
 3 Once you were an al - ien peo - ple, Strang - ers
 4 Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly, Be the



na - tion, cho - sen race; Called as God's own
 His most mar - v'ulous light; Brought His truth to
 to God's heart of love; But He brought you
 peo - ple He in - tends; Strong in faith and



spe - cial peo - ple, Roy - al priests and heirs of
 life with - in you, Turned your blind - ness in - to
 home in mer - cy, Cit - i - zens of heav'n a -
 swift to an - swer Each com - mand your Mas - ter



grace: Know the pur - pose of your call - ing,
 sight. Let your light so shine a - round you
 bove. Let His love flow out to oth - ers,
 sends: Roy - al priests, ful - fill your call - ing



Show to all His might - y deeds; Tell of love that
 That God's name is glo - ri - fied; And all find fresh
 Let them feel a Fa - ther's care; That they too may
 Through your sac - ri - fice and prayer; Give your lives in



knows no lim - its, Grace that meets all hu - man needs.
 hope and pur - pose In Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.
 know His wel - come And His count - less bless - ings share.
 joy - ful ser - vice— Sing His praise, His love de - clare.

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 Tune: © 1942, renewed 1970 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000904

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER

Lord, help me to grasp that all the blessings I think I have are really Yours. Help me to grasp that all the blessings our church has do not belong to the church, but to You. Give us healthy giving hearts to use these blessings according to Your purpose. In Your name I pray. Amen.

PRESENTATION 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.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For daily bread, that we would not crave and weep after what we no longer have, but be content with what God so graciously rains down upon us, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For pastors and their hearers, that the Holy Spirit would rest upon them; that pastors may prophesy God's Word publicly and faithfully among us; and that we, in turn, may prophesy it in our homes and vocations, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For our elders and board of directors, that God would bless them with the necessary gifts of His Spirit to serve the congregation, support our pastor and uphold the ministry of the Word amongst us, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For our leaders and those who bear the sword in our land, that sin and wickedness may be kept at bay and we may live peaceable lives in security, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the suffering and those who are sick, especially *Dennis Walkenhorst, John Walsh, and all those who are suffering from COVID-19, either at home or in the hospital*, that the Lord would save them and raise them up, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever, who taught 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.**

CLOSING PRAYER

God, reignite the hearts of us all to have a passion for the Gospel. Teach our church to share the Gospel with others. Teach us to live as those who are true bearers of the good news of Jesus Christ. Remind us of our purpose. Convict us of our purpose. Empower us to live our purpose. In Jesus name. 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

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

LSB 790



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -
5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -
made you, Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly
fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall
dore Him! All that has life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is
fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has
dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -
prais - es be - fore Him! Let the A - men Sound from His



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?
failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.
might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.
peo - ple a - gain; Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore Him!

Tune and text: Public domain

POSTLUDE

“Lobe Den Herren”

Charles Callahan

*Join us for a reception
following worship this morning.*



Growing in the Grace of Giving

Why do we give? Is it simply because God commands us to? Or is there more to it? To be sure, the Word and instruction of God in the Bible says we should give, and this is sufficient to encourage us to give (Luke 6:38; Acts 20:35; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 8:7; Gal. 6:6).

But there's more to it than just obligation. We're not just trying to fulfill a work of the law. We are bearing fruits of the Spirit given to us by our Father in heaven through His Son our Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, we're not just doing what our Father said, we're also doing what He did.

Children emulate their parents. When they grow up, they often carry many of the same mannerisms and characteristics as their parents. But there is more to it than that. Children copy their parents even on a more mundane level. They watch how their parents cross their legs, how they fold their hands, how they stand and sit and walk, and how they do and say most everything. Then children try to copy it.

This can be quite humorous when caught in the act. They do this even when parents don't want them to. Everyone has been in the uncomfortable – and embarrassing situation – where a child does or says something one of their parents have done or said that is less than polite. Sitcoms thrive on these. It only works because of the truth that children emulate their parents, and they do it because they want to be like them.

We are the children of God – by grace through faith. In Holy Baptism, God the Father declares of us what He declared of Jesus at His Baptism in the Jordan, “You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” God the Father claims us as His own. He takes away all our sins. In exchange, He gives us His righteousness, His purity, His holiness, and His Spirit – by which we cry out, “Abba, Father.”

We are born again – born from above, born of water and the Spirit – to a new life in Christ as His children. We are sons of God in Christ through Baptism. Since we are sons, we are heirs who share in the glory of the Son of God. The inheritance is ours because of the Father's grace, mercy, and generosity in sending His Son in time to save us for all eternity.

This is why we give generously of our income to the work of the church. We want to be like our heavenly Father. We want to emulate His generosity by being generous ourselves. We give to the work of the church because we have witnessed the generous giving of our Father in heaven.

More than that, we are recipients of it. It is because we have received our Father's gifts that we desire to give ourselves. His gifts are not just spiritual. They are temporal and earthly as well. As *Luther's Small Catechism* teaches in the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer:

Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean? God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread? Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

In other words, He gives us everything that we need for the care of both body and soul. His generosity knows no bounds.

Therefore, we sit down at the beginning of the year, the beginning of the month, or the beginning of the week and set aside a generous portion of God's daily bread for His work in the church. This is not done because He has commanded us so to do but rather because we, as His children by grace, want to emulate His generosity in our own lives. He is our Father; we are His children. And children want to be like their parents.

Connecting Points

TODAY: we continue the Sundays after Pentecost, also referred to as the "long green season." This season of the church year will take us all the way to Advent, with few festivals in-between. The emphasis of this half of the church year will be to take the ministry and message of our Lord into our hearts and lives and put it into action in our daily lives. The color of the day is *green*~ the color of growth and life. A constant reminder that we are to daily grow in the Word and in our faith.



PLEASE REMEMBER: that when we are in our *sanctuary* or in *Fellowship Hall*, masks are *OPTIONAL BUT STRONGLY RECOMMDED*. Keep in mind our brothers & sisters in Christ who are undergoing various treatments, therapies, recovering from surgeries, or maybe just have a weakened immune system—they are the reason we mask up. Thanks in advance for caring!



SPECIAL NOTE: Please, do NOT bring any food or drink or into the sanctuary. We ask for everyone's cooperation.

REMINDER: Until further notice our Elders have decided that Communion will be distributed via the continuous distribution method. We will commune one side then the other. Also, during this time, offerings will be received by the double doors leading to the Narthex and brought forward to the Lord's altar during our worship. An offering plate will remain on the table however, if you forgot to place your offering before worship.



SPECIAL THANKS: To *Hope's special celebration committee* for their work in planning for **today's** reception as we now have moved into our new church home! Please note that the refreshments today are designed for you to either stay and enjoy or take home and enjoy! Every effort to keep everyone safe has gone into all the planning.



REMINDER: ALL announcements for our worship bulletins **MUST** be received by **NOON, TUESDAYS** to be included. Verbal announcements must be requested by **Wednesday, Noon**. Thanks in advance for your assistance!



USHERS NEEDED: While we thank God for *ALL* of our ushers, there is always the need for some additional hands to help. If *YOU* would like to serve on one of our usher teams, please be sure to contact the church office.



NEEDED: We are in need of 2-liter (empty & clean) soda bottles. Collection baskets are in the Narthex and church office.



MOVING HOPE: *Calling all hands...calling all hands!* We NEED your assistance at the next Moving Hope mobile food pantry on **September 27th**. We will gather in our parking lot at **5:30PM** (towards the back); food distribution **begins at 6:00**.

DEDICATION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10: We WILL have our regular worship at **9:15AM** and our Dedication Service at **3:00PM**.



REFORMATION DAY: We regret to announce that it was decided by the pastors of our *Winter Haven Circuit* **this past Monday morning** to CANCEL the *Winter Haven Circuit Reformation Service* on **October 31st** due to ongoing COVID concerns. We truly regretted having to make this painful decision, but we knew it was for the best of everyone in our congregations. **HOWEVER...**we will still celebrate Reformation Sunday in our **morning worship service!**

EMPTY BOWLS RETURNS: The annual Empty Bowls lunch of the *United Food Bank of Plant City* will take place at the *Willaford Railroad Museum in downtown Plant City* on **Saturday, November 14th**. Cost per tickets (entire proceeds to the Food Bank) are \$5.00 each **UNTIL October 31st**. **After October 31st** tickets are \$10.00 each. Your meal consists of soup, bottle of water, fruit crackers, and a handmade bowl made by area school students. To get your tickets in advance see *Pastor Pfeffer* or contact the *Church Office*.



UNITED FOOD BANK: has a barrel in our *Narthex* for you to donate much-needed non-perishable food items (peanut butter, jelly, mac-n-cheese, tuna, canned fruit, dry cereal, etc.). *UFBPC* provides breakfast & lunch for children when school is not in session as well as a backpack program for those children who would otherwise go hungry Friday evening—Monday morning. Many thanks to all who have provided much needed groceries!



MOVED: Our sister in Christ, *Barbara French* has been moved to the *Community Care Center, 2202 W. Oak Ave, Plant City (by Festival Grounds)* and would **REALLY** love to see her Hope family again! If you cannot go visit, please be sure to send her a note of encouragement.



MOVED: Our sister in Christ, *Joyce Van Matre* has relocated to *Grace Manor*. Her new address is *765 West Grant Street, #115, Plant City*. Her phone remains the same (*813-545-4318*). Give her a call or send a note!

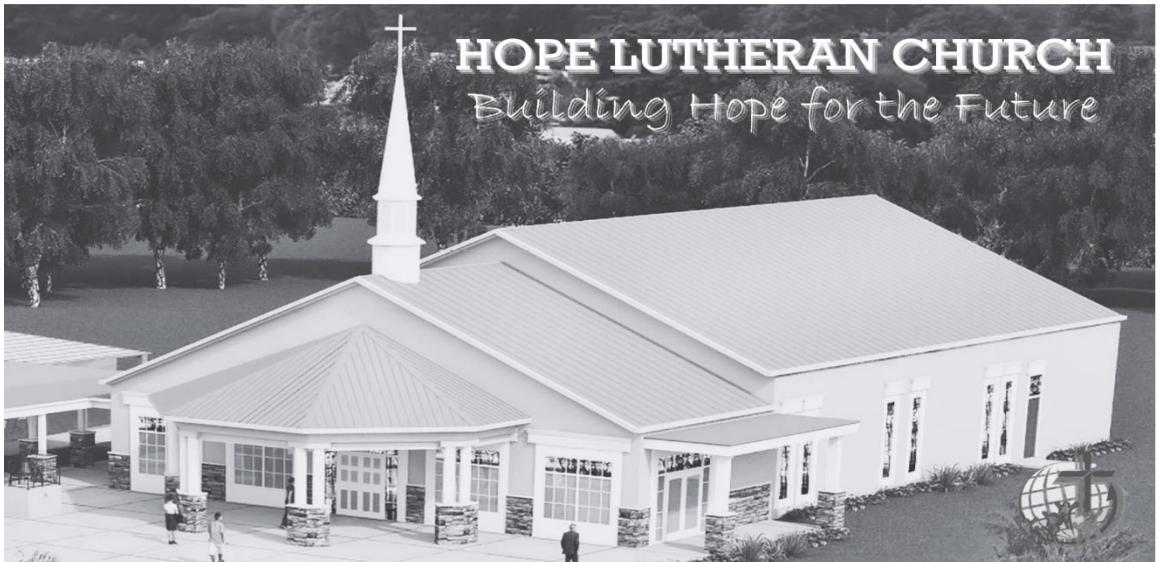
Our Church Youth are looking forward to participating in the next National Youth Gathering that will be taking place in Houston, Texas July 9-13th, 2022. All church members can lift up our youth in multiple ways.



1. Send or say words of encouragement as they begin a bible study connected to the Gathering Theme "In All Things" Colossians 1: 15-20.
2. Support our youth as they begin to raise funds to help defray the cost of the gathering.
3. Continue purchasing SCRIP orders each month. (We are moving to a virtual only format soon. More information to come.)
4. Pray for our youth that they will be lifted up and brought closer to God through their experiences leading up to and at the gathering.

For their first fundraiser, the youth will be selling Gourmet Popcorn. This fundraiser will start Sunday, October 3rd. Please visit our youth in the Narthex after the October 3rd church service to see how you can help.

Thank you for your support and prayers! With God All Things are Possible!



Dedication of Hope's New Sanctuary & Mission Hub

Sunday, October 10, 2021 | 3:00PM

Rev. Dr. John Nunes, Dedication Speaker | Reception to follow

2001 N. Park Road, Plant City, FL 33563

hopeplantcity.com

thrivent

Join Us



Did you know that next to a mortgage, student loans are likely to be an individual's largest liability?

Join the Thrivent Member Network for Student Loan Essentials with Ryan Law on September 29. Register at <https://thrivent.me/StudentLoans> to learn about the loan process, various types of loans, repayment plans, refinancing and consolidation options, and resources available if you need help.

Ryan Law, CFP, AFC, is the Director of the Utah Valley University (UVU) Money Management Resource Center. He is an award-winning educator who teaches the Financial Counseling courses as part of the Personal Financial Planning program at UVU. Ryan is the author of the book "Student Loan Planning" and co-editor of the book "Financial Counseling."



Event Details

September 29, 2021
12 & 7 p.m.



Register

<https://thrivent.me/StudentLoans>

Hosted by

Thrivent Member Network - Southeast Region

Questions? Email SoutheastTMN@thrivent.com



Summer Worship

SUNDAYS

9:15am - *Worship*

w/live-stream @ hopeplantcity.com

10:30am - *Family Bible Hour*

4:00pm - *Spanish Worship*

WEDNESDAYS

6:30pm - *Living Hope Worship*

FAMILY BIBLE HOUR SUNDAYS 10:30AM



PRESCHOOL—GRADE 5

SIMPLY LOVED: JOIN US AS WE EXPLORE THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS. WE WILL JOURNEY CHRONOLOGICALLY THROUGH THE BIBLE AND DISCOVER FRIENDSHIPS WITH JESUS THROUGHOUT GOD'S STORY. SIMPLY LOVED IS DESIGNED TO HELP KIDS REMEMBER EACH LESSON WITH ACTIVITIES, SONGS, AND SPECIAL BIBLE MEMORY BUDDIES.

LEADERS: STACEY GREATENS, TRACY MACDONALD, ELLEN WHITEHURST

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

THE CASE FOR CHRIST: WHAT EVIDENCE IS THERE FOR JESUS OUTSIDE OF THE BIBLE? IF GOD IS SUCH A GOOD GOD, WHY IS THERE SO MUCH SUFFERING AND EVIL AND CHAOS IN THE WORLD? LET'S DIG INTO THESE TOUGH QUESTIONS AND MORE—AND LEARN HOW TO DEFEND OUR FAITH. **LEADERS:** YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

ADULTS

EENDURING FAITH: AS WE PROGRESS THROUGH THIS PROGRAM, WE LEARN IN DEPTH ABOUT OUR SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST, WHAT OUR SAVIOR MEANS TO US, HOW TO DEFEND OUR FAITH, AND HOW TO TEACH THE FAITH TO OTHERS. LESSONS SPIRAL GOING DEEPER EACH TIME WE RE-ENCOUNTER A BIBLE PASSAGE. **LEADER:** PASTOR PFEFFER

BUILDING NEWS

To give online to *Building Hope for the Future*, simply go to Hope's website (hopeplantcity.com) and click "GIVE HERE."



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: In construction almost every task is dependent upon a previous task. For example, most recently, the pews can't be installed until the flooring is complete, the flooring can't be installed until the humidity in the building is controlled, the humidity can't be controlled until the air conditioning is working, the air conditioning can't run until electricity is installed in the building, and so on...

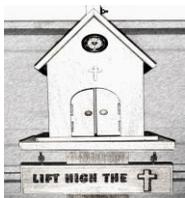
The power to the new building was scheduled to be installed August 2. This date was set at a site meeting in June. The actual date that power was installed was September 3. Similarly, the power was scheduled to be removed from the former Sanctuary on July 30 – it did not actually happen until August 23. Phone calls and pleas from the contractor and Hope representatives had no effect.

The good news is that power is on and the brakes are off. The HVAC is up and running, the flooring is installed, the pews were installed the week of 9/13, the concrete plaza was poured on 9/13, and the sound system was installed 9/20. The old sanctuary has been demolished, excess fill hauled off, and the parking lot construction has begun.

We have our temporary occupancy permit and are holding our first worship services today (9/26)!

The Lord has always provided a way throughout this project, and it often was not the way that we expected. Your prayers and support have been greatly appreciated—please continue.

Building Hope for the Future: Impact Phase, September 2021

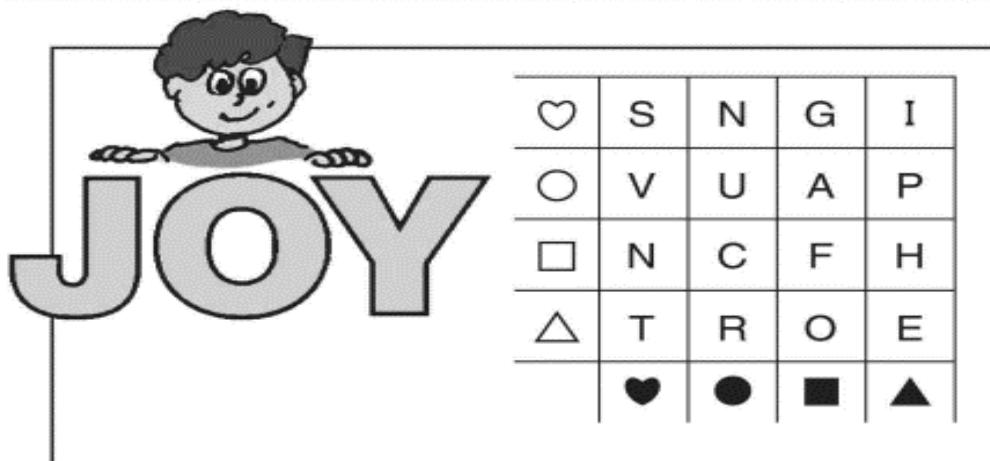


Our total contributions received as of the end of August are \$638,666, representing 94.55% of our total pledge goal. Amazing! Although recent days have been very trying, you have been faithful stewards in honoring your commitments to Building Hope for the Future. Thank you. I hope you are thinking about those you will invite to worship with us in our soon to be completed mission hub. Please keep Building Hope for the Future in your prayers and your plans.

Jeremiah 29:11—“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

In the end we will find joy in our troubles
because they help build our character.

Use the code to find out how suffering brings hope.



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In Our Thoughts and Prayers

SHUT-INS:

Jim Baldwin	Putt & Sue Crouse
Diane Bates	Bonnie Genrich
Winnifred Brookman	Ray & Rita Gonzalez
Howard Brown	Liz Miller
Betty Christiansen	Chuck Wigand

LEADERS:

Rev. Dean & Liz Pfeffer	Pres. Joseph Biden
LCMS Synod & District	Our Nation & World
Hope Staff & Ministries	Our Armed Forces
	Our 1 st Responders

Family and Friends of Hope

CURRENT REQUESTS:

Paul Ahlers	health concerns
Kayra Cannell	niece of Alan & Sue Griffin—rare form of lupus; breast cancer
Cindy	step-sister of Alan Griffin—comfort
Carol Cothorn	friend of Barbara Ahlers—recovering from cancer surgery; mouth biopsies
Trivunovich family	mourning death of Nora's father
John Walsh	bone marrow transplant

BATTLING CANCER:

Austin Dobbs	Jim	Faye Mueller	Betty Snaper
Dave Cannell	Jerry Gross	Marie Kopp	Virginia
Carolyn	GZ	Larry	John Walsh
Mary Clapp	Burt Hermann	Pat Mason	Millie Wetz
Derek	Joy Huang	Jennifer McCourt	Heather Whitehurst

Serving in the Military (R—Reserves)

Alex Almaguer	Stephanie Enloe—R	Tyler Newkirk	Derek Quackenbush
Jacob Bertsch	Brandon Hastings	Stephen Olliff—R	Justin Rappa
Stephen Daniell—R	Brad Landis	Blake Paton—R	Ryan Sonnenberg
Lorrie Daniell—R	Bobby Martin	Donnie Pittman	Mike Szostkiewicz—R
	Aaron Morley	Hank Poirier	

Please email your prayer requests to hopePCprays@gmail.com.

Due to space limitation, prayer requests can only be listed for four weeks.



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

1Corinthians 4:1

SERVING OUR LORD THIS SUNDAY (9/26/2021) ARE:

Bell Ringer	9:15/Alex Attalla
Crucifer	9:15/Keaira Griffin
Lector	9:15/Gloria Warner
Elder on Duty	9:15/Wayne Warner
Flowers	MacDonald family
Offerings	Alison Reaume & Cathie Warner
Altar Guild	Liz Pfeffer
Ushers	Team 3

Todd Warner*, Diane Bertsch, Lonnie Bertsch, Billy Mueller

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by
Ron & Tracy MacDonald in honor of Andrew's birthday*

SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEDNESDAY (9/29/2021) ARE:

Lector	6:30/Tena Matthews
Elder on Duty	6:30/Wayne Warner

SERVING OUR LORD NEXT SUNDAY (10/3/2021) ARE:

Bell Ringer	9:15/Grace Kelly
Lector	9:15/Dan Paton
Elder on Duty	9:15/Nick Trivunovich
Communion Assistant	9:15/Nick Trivunovich
Flowers	Howell family
Offerings	Dale & Jonie Wenzel
Altar Guild	Yolanda Heipp
Ushers	Team 4

Jim Drapp*, Ken Hartmann, Stuart Howell, Nick Trivunovich