

July 24, 2026



News in the Pews!



Digital Edition

Upcoming Events

Social Suppers & Wednesday Evening Prayer Resume

August 5 at Hope Central Campus

New Member Orientation

August 8 at 9:00am at Hope Central Campus

New Members Received

August 8 & 9 at all Hope campuses

Women of Hope Out to Lunch Bunch

August 20 at 11:30am at Evans Prairie Country Club - Register below

Become a Member of Hope!



Ready to make Hope your church home? We invite you to participate in the next step of the membership process by attending Hope's New Member Orientation on **Saturday, August 8** from 9:00am to 12:00pm at Hope Central Campus. Continental breakfast will be served.

New members will be received on the weekend of August 8 & 9 at their preferred service.

We have three levels of membership - voting, associate, and seasonal. For more information on membership options, please visit our website by [clicking here](#).

Questions? Contact Pam Slating at pams@hope4all.church or by phone at (352) 750-2321. Deadline to submit paperwork is August 3.

Update on the Hope South Campus Building Project

Several sections of Hope South Campus are taking shape before our eyes!

Below, you can see the interior and exterior of the new campus, as well as more block ready to be placed. Workers are laboring steadily in hot weather. Please continue to keep them in prayer.

To support the ongoing construction of Hope South Campus, please consider giving to our building fund. **You can donate easily online by clicking [here](#).**

And remember, we are praying every day at 1:00pm for the success of our building project and the future community at Hope South Campus! Don't forget our prayer: *"God, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in mission for the sake of the Gospel!"*



Rainforest Falls VBS: Growing in God's Love

Rainforest Falls Vacation Bible School was a week filled with faith, fun, and unforgettable moments as 35 children and 30 dedicated volunteers gathered to explore the wonders of God's love.

Throughout the week, our young adventurers discovered five powerful truths: **God is our Creator. God knows everything. God is our Safe Haven. God is Love. God is Forever.** These biblical truths came alive through exciting Bible Adventures, energetic outdoor games, imaginative activities at Imagination Station, music, crafts, and engaging videos that connected God's Word to everyday life.



One moment captured the spirit of the entire week. Following the retelling of Jesus' life, suffering, death, and resurrection, one child quietly walked over, gave me a hug, tears in his eyes, and simply said, *"Thank you for telling us that story."* It was a sacred

reminder that the Gospel still speaks powerfully to young hearts. Every volunteer experienced similar moments of joy and grace throughout the week.

We came hoping to teach the children, but we soon realized they were teaching us as well—about wonder, trust, kindness, and the joy of discovering God's love together. We offer our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made Rainforest Falls possible: the volunteers who gave so generously of their time and talents, those whose financial support provided the resources needed, and our congregation for surrounding this ministry with prayer and encouragement.

At Hope, our mission is **to know Christ, and to make Christ known**. During this special week, we witnessed that mission in action as seeds of faith were planted, lives were touched, and God's love was shared. We trust that the lessons learned at Rainforest Falls will continue to grow in the hearts of these children for years to come.

Women of Hope Out to Lunch Bunch

Evans Prairie Country Club – August 20 at 11:30am

Join us for our third and final Women of Hope Out to Lunch Bunch gathering of the season. We will meet at Evans Prairie Country Club, located at 1825 Evans Prairie Trail in The Villages. Bring a friend and enjoy a warm, welcoming luncheon with good food and fellowship.

Please reserve your spot by registering online using the link below. There is no cost to register; each attendee will pay individually at the restaurant. If you are bringing a guest, please register once for yourself and complete a second registration for your guest.



Registration closes on Monday, August 17, at noon. For additional information, please contact Bonnie Cook at (352) 460-7672.

Please save the following dates for upcoming breakfast meetings at Hope Central Campus at 9:00am.

- September 17 – Ma Barker & Her Gangster Sons
- October 15 – Artificial Intelligence: Everyday Applications, Fears, and Facts

[Click Here to Register for Lunch](#)

To Know Christ

Book Shelf



Thinking of how to know Christ and make Christ known in your life? You might consider becoming a Stephen Minister. Stephen Ministers are caring people who care for people.

They are members of our congregation who meet one-to-one with someone dealing with life challenges such as grief, terminal illness, other medical diagnoses, pending surgery, family concerns, relocation difficulties, forgiveness issues, or a questioning faith.

No matter what the challenge is, one does not need to make the journey alone. Stephen Ministers usually meet with a care receiver for 1 hour weekly to listen, care, encourage, support, and pray with and for the care receiver.

Training is required. The next training opportunity begins Saturday, September 12 at Hope Central Campus. For more information on how to put God's love into action as a Stephen Minister, call the church office or contact Kathy Smith at smithkath@aol.com or (352) 399-5103.



Love to read? Please consider joining one of Hope's four book groups. They all meet at Hope Central Campus.

The August books are:

Second Monday at 9:00am is off for summer

First Tuesday August 4 at 1:00pm is *Miss Benson's Beetle* by Rachel Joyce

First Tuesday August 4 at 4:00pm is *Night Watch* by Jayne Anne Phillips

First Wednesday August 5 at 9:00am is *Pope Joan* by Donna Woolfolk

Please email Anita Dillman at anitadillman1@gmail.com if you have any questions or for more information.

90 Years Blessed & Loved!

Ruth Leininger is turning 90!

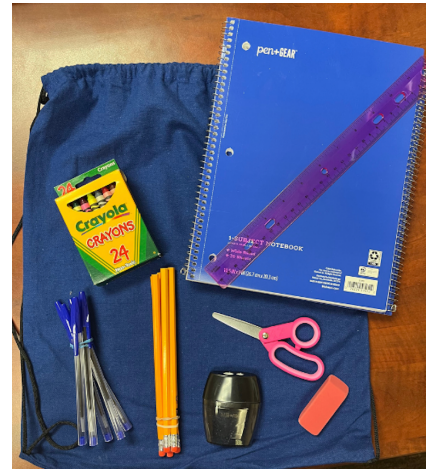
Join us for her birthday celebration Sunday, August 9, at 2:00pm Hope Central Campus Fellowship Hall.

Friends of Ruth kindly RSVP to Debbie at dblank@att.net by Sunday, August 2. Cake and ice cream will be served.



Lutheran World Relief

Each year the **Women of Hope** assemble 90 school kits with specific items collected for each bag. Each bag is assembled with the same exact items: 4 notebooks, 5 pens, 5 pencils and 1 of each item listed below. This ensures that each recipient receives uniform items that are useful to their situation. This is a program sponsored by Lutheran World Relief, serving communities living in poverty overseas.



Education is one of the strongest tools a community has for breaking the cycle of poverty. Ensuring that children attend school, especially in places where their access is deprioritized, which has even stronger results. School kits contain essential supplies to help children – and in some cases, adults – continue in the face of serious obstacles. Learning leads to a better life for them, their families, and their communities.

We are seeking the following items for each school kit:

- 70-80 page wide or college ruled notebooks (no loose leaf)
- Wood rulers with both inches and metric
- Ink pens, blue or black ink (no gel pens please)
- 2 ½ inch erasers
- Unsharpened pencils, #2 lead
- Sharpener
- Scissors with round blunt edges
- Box of 16 or 24 crayons

Please note: Items should not include religious symbols, messages, or decorations of any kind. Donations may be dropped off at Hope Central Campus in the Information Hallway or the Tree of Life Hallway during August. Florida's Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday runs from July 20 through August 20. If you choose to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to Hope Lutheran Church and write "LWR School Kits" on the memo line. For questions, contact Joyce Hope at 352-350-6750.

Calling All Singers: Join the Hope Lake Weir Campus Weekly Choir or Fall Cantata

Hope Lake Weir Campus's Music Director Frederick Blanchard is seeking basses and tenors to join both the regular weekly choir and the Fall Cantata choir.

Anyone interested may email Frederick at frederick@hope4all.church.



Fall Cantata Singers: Please Click Here to Sign Up

Rehearsal/Performance schedule:

Sunday, 8/23/26 - Hope Lake Weir Campus Sanctuary: 2:30 - 4:30pm ... Soprano/Alto Sectional Rehearsal

Sunday, 8/30/26 - Hope Lake Weir Campus Sanctuary: 2:30 - 4:30pm ... Tenor/Bass Sectional Rehearsal

Sunday, 9/6/26 - Hope Lake Weir Campus Sanctuary: 2:30 - 4:30pm ... Full CCH (choir) Rehearsal

Sunday, 9/13/26 - Hope Lake Weir Campus Sanctuary: 2:30 - 4:30pm ... Full CCH (choir) Rehearsal

Sunday, 9/20/26 - Hope Lake Weir Campus Sanctuary: 2:30 - 4:30pm Full CCH w/ Instruments Rehearsal

Friday, 9/25/26 - Hope Lake Weir Campus Sanctuary: 2:30 - 4:30pm DRESS REHEARSAL

- 4:30 - 6:00pm.... IN HOUSE DINNER AND REST
- 5:45pm DOORS OPEN TO AUDIENCE
- 6:00pm CCH CALL TIME
- 6:30 - 7:30pm 1ST PERFORMANCE
- 7:30pm.... RECEPTION IN HALL

Sunday, 9/27/26 - Hope Lake Weir Campus Sanctuary: 2:00pm CCH CALL TIME

- 2:15pm DOORS OPEN TO AUDIENCE
- 3:00 - 4:00pm 2ND PERFORMANCE
- 4:00pm RECEPTION IN HALL

Christmas in July

Please Help Support The Infant and Toddler Pantry!

Your Generosity Makes a Difference all Year Round

This is an important initiative to help support vulnerable infants and toddlers in the area. The Infant and Toddler Pantry in Summerfield helps to ensure families in need have access to essential clothes and supplies for their little ones, and your help can make a real difference.



How Can You Help? Donations can be made in the following ways:

- For the convenience of all, the weekend of July 25-26 bins will be at all three campuses.
- Use the labelled collection bins at Hope Central Campus throughout July in the Information Hallway and the Tree of Life Hallway.
- Checks should be made payable to Hope Lutheran Church, include *Women of Hope/Christmas* in the Memo line.

What Are We Collecting for the Pantry? We are seeking donations of:

- Baby sunblock, shampoo, ointments, lotions and wipes
- Children's shoes (6 mo to 6 Toddler), boxed or unboxed
- Clothing for infants and toddlers (new or gently used)
- Crib sheets, rattles, toys and books
- Baby layette essentials
- Packs of disposable diapers (Infant through toddler sizes)

Why Your Support Matters

Every donation helps provide critical resources to families who are struggling to make ends meet. Together, we can ensure that every child has access to the basic necessities that support their growth, health, and happiness.

Thank you for your continued support for this important mission!
The Women of Hope

Gatherings of Hope

Pastor Rani is leading Gatherings of Hope on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in Room 204 at Hope Central Campus from 9:30am to 10:30am.

Experience a community of support that cares for you no matter what you are going through. You are welcome to bring your lunch. All are welcome, including non-Hope members, so please invite your friends to join us.

Faith & Fellowship

Faith and Fellowship creates a weekly opportunity to look at the scriptures in light of everyday life. Together we continue to unpack the gift that we have in and through God's grace.

Faith & Fellowship is now meeting at all Hope campuses! You can find a list of locations and meeting times [by clicking here](#).

All are welcome, including non-Hope members.

Join a G.I.F.T. Group

Hope Lutheran Church has officially launched our G.I.F.T. Groups (Growing In Faith Together) ministry!

Join a small group of 6–10 people who will meet in homes, at church, online, or wherever God provides space.

[Click Here to Get Involved](#)

Worship Attendance for July 18 & 19, 2026

Hope Central Campus:

4:00pm - 161
6:00pm - 52
8:00am - 96
10:00am - 204

Online:

4:00pm - Streaming issues
10:00am - Streaming issues
10:00am (HLWC) - 71

Hope Lake Weir Campus:

10:00am - 107

Hope at the Everglades Rec Center:

8:00am - 99
10:00am - 138



Flowers on the Altar Given By...

- Bill & Ann Sachs, in honor of their 58th wedding anniversary on Monday, July 27

In Memoriam



Jennifer Saltness passed away on Saturday, July 18, 2026. Jennifer was born on September 29, 1948. She and her husband, Jerry, were married on September 7, 1968. They joined Hope Lutheran Church on November 17, 2013.

Arrangements are incomplete at this time.

Please keep Jerry and their family in your hearts and prayers during their time of grief.

**Scripture Reading for
July 26
Ninth Sunday After Pentecost**

Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:44-52

**Scripture Reading for
August 2
Tenth Sunday After Pentecost**

Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

This Weekend's Worship Bulletin

Click the button to view this weekend's worship bulletin for traditional services.

[View the Worship Bulletin](#)

Inform the Church of Visitation Needs

Do you know of someone who needs a visit from a Hope pastor? Please call the church office at (352) 750-2321 and let us know. Our Pastoral Care Team would love to visit with you or your loved one.

Submit a Prayer Request

Need Prayer? Submit a prayer request via our hope4all.church website.

[Click Here to Submit a Prayer Request](#)

Hope Lutheran Church Office Hours

Monday to Thursday - 8:00am to 4:00pm Friday - 8:00am to 1:00pm

Have news to share? Please fill out the [Newsletter Article Request Form](#) for inclusion in a future edition!

Hope Lutheran Church | hope4all.church

Visit our Website

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