

May 8, 2026



# News in the Pews!



Digital Edition

## Upcoming Events

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### Mother's Day

May 10

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### Men of Hope Breakfast

May 14 at 8:00am at Hope Central Campus

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### Hope For All Event with Shrimp Fry

May 15 beginning at 4:30pm at Hope Lake Weir Campus

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### Diabetes Support Group

May 18 at 10:00am at Hope Central Campus

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## Happy Mother's Day from Hope Lutheran Church



**Don't forget! Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10, 2026.**

On behalf of the leadership of Hope Lutheran Church, we wish you a blessed and happy Mother's Day!

We hope you have an opportunity to celebrate with family and friends this weekend.

**Hope For All at Hope Lake Weir Campus**  
to benefit the Hope for the Future Scholarship Program

**Friday, May 15 from 4:30pm to 6:30pm**

Event starts at 4:30pm - Food served at 5:15pm - Music & Ice Cream until 6:30pm

Come one, come all to a special event at Hope Lake Weir Campus!

**Hope For All** is an outdoor concert and meal featuring live acoustic music, ice cream truck, giveaways, and tons of fun for everyone.

This time, we will enjoy a Shrimp Fry meal. Non-seafood options will also be available. Plus, enjoy entertainment under the pavilion on the scenic shores of Lake Weir.

You can also expect a brief message and lots of great fellowship time. Come as you are, and bring your friends! Registration is \$15 per person.



# HOPE FOR ALL

**FAITH, FOOD, FRIENDS!**

AN OUTDOOR CONCERT & DINNER  
PRESENTED BY HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**VENUE :**

Hope Lake Weir Campus  
10495 SE Sunset Harbor Road,  
Summerfield, FL 34491

**DATE & TIME:**

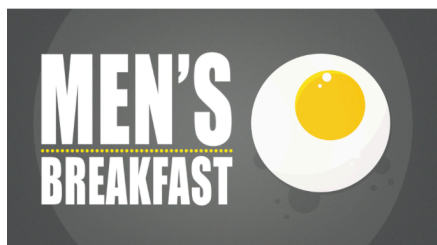
Friday, May 15  
4:30pm to 6:30pm

**DINNER & ICE CREAM TRUCK**

Live acoustic performance – Shrimp Fry –  
Prayer & Fellowship time – Giveaways –  
Ice Cream Truck – and more!

[Click Here to Register for Hope For All](#)

## Men of Hope Breakfast



Our next Men of Hope breakfast will be held on May 14 at 8:00am at Hope Central Campus. All men of Hope Lutheran Church and their friends are invited to attend!

Cost is \$10 per person. You must register at [hope4all.church](http://hope4all.church) or by clicking the link below.

Please join us for a morning of simple fellowship and a great breakfast!

Questions? Please call Raybon at (352) 205-2078. We look forward to seeing you!

## Share Your Smile!

Become a



# GREETER

The 10:00am worship service at Hope Central Campus is looking for volunteers willing to share a friendly smile and a warm handshake as a greeter.

Greeting is an easy way to contribute to your church and make a difference in a big way! No experience is necessary.

[Click Here to Register  
for Breakfast](#)

If you are interested, please email  
Sally at [maronde@comcast.net](mailto:maronde@comcast.net).

## Hope for the Future Scholarship

Over the past few years, *Hope for the Future Scholarship* has given out over 100 scholarships to high school seniors from our surrounding areas. Each year 15 students are selected, and each student is awarded a \$1000 scholarship along with the option to receive a mentor from Hope. The high schools in the area invited to participate each year include the following: The Villages Charter High School, Leesburg High School, Lake Weir High School, Leesburg High School, and Belleview High School. This year we received 40 applications and 15 students were selected.

We have celebrated the Scholarship Award ceremony over the past two weekends at Hope, at all three campuses. It was joy to have the students join in worship with their families and friends.

If you would like to join the scholarship committee, or support this program financially, please feel free to reach out to me at [pastorrani@hope4all.church](mailto:pastorrani@hope4all.church). We welcome those who would like to give a \$1000 scholarship, or more, in memory of a loved one, or in honor of someone.

Thank you for your generosity and support to these young graduates as we continue to “know Christ, and to make Christ known by caring for our members and supporting our community.”

In Christ,  
Pastor Rani





## The Diabetes Support Group Invites YOU!



The next meeting of the Diabetic Support Group will be held on **Monday, May 18** from 10:00am to 11:30am at Hope Central Campus. Meetings will be held in room 205.

This will be our last meeting until September 21. Come check out this great group before summer break!

All are welcome, including all levels of Diabetes from pre-diabetes, type 1, type 2, and those on insulin pumps along with CGM wearers. We look forward to seeing old and new friends alike!

Questions? Contact Darlene Harris at [harris2257@hotmail.com](mailto:harris2257@hotmail.com) or call (614) 832-0910. Please join us!

## Support Your Blessing Bag Ministry



The Blessing Bag team's **Most Needed Items** are small deodorants and small bottles of shampoo.

In addition to the hats, socks, and personal care items that are included in the Blessing Bags, we also include a McDonald's Gift Card. These are so much appreciated by the recipients!

Financial donations are greatly appreciated in order to continue to purchase and distribute these gift cards. Checks can be made out to Hope Lutheran Church with "Blessing Bags" noted on the memo line (or on the outside of the donations envelope). Cash is also gratefully accepted - in a donation envelope marked "Blessing Bags".

## Stephen Leader Commissioning This Weekend

This weekend we are commissioning our newest Stephen Leader, Debbie Behnke. Debbie joins the team who organizes, teaches, and supervises our Stephen Ministers to provide high-quality, one-to-one care to hurting people in our congregation and community.

Debbie has served as a Stephen Minister and provided uniquely Christian care to several care receivers having difficulty dealing with life's challenges. She faithfully completed the Zoom Leader's Training Course, a live, interactive online training experience that prepares participants to serve as Stephen Leaders.



Because of her gifts, her calling, and training, we charge her to:

- Spread the word about our Stephen Ministry, educate people about what it involves, and cast a vision for this crucial ministry.
- Carefully recruit, select, and train congregation members with the gifts, talents, and character to serve as Stephen Ministers.
- Draw on the resources of our congregation and community to enrich the training and supervision of Stephen Ministers in this congregation.
- Work with the clergy of this congregation to identify members who could benefit from this confidential caring ministry.
- Match hurting people with Stephen Ministers based on what will best meet their needs.



We ask you to open your hearts and pray for our Stephen Ministers as servants of Christ. Accept their ministry when you need help and allow these individuals to work with you as you face struggles in your life.

Congratulations, Debbie. You have our love and support. For more information, contact the church office or Deacon Kathy Smith at [smithkath@aol.com](mailto:smithkath@aol.com) or (352) 399-5103.

## Women of Hope Breakfast Meeting

**Thursday, May 21 at 9:00am - Hope Central Campus**

The Women of Hope will welcome Cindy Hanauer, who will present "Nature's Masterpiece: Experience God's Artistry Revealed Through Flowers Across the Globe" on Thursday, May 21, at 9:00am at Hope Central Campus.

From a family-owned florist shop to the global flower market, Hope member Cindy Hanauer brings a lifetime of floral expertise to this program. As a leading flower importer to the U.S., Cindy traveled across the country and to 15 nations, working directly with the world's largest flower growers. In this visually rich presentation, enjoy behind-the-scenes stories and stunning images from flower farms around the globe—along with practical, easy-to-use tips on flower design, care, and handling that you can use right away.



Cindy is the Volunteer Director of “My Time for Free Time,” Hope’s weekly respite program for caregivers. She also sings in the Hope South and Combined Choirs, co-hosts an in-home Bible study group, and serves in numerous other roles primarily focusing on the launch of Hope South Campus. Her joyful enthusiasm for life and serving will inspire you!

All women are invited to come and enjoy a delicious breakfast, fellowship, and this fun and informative presentation. Guests are always welcome! The cost is \$10. Reserve your place by noon on Monday, May 18. If you have questions, please contact June Cook at (352) 430-5025.

[Click Here to Register for Breakfast](#)

## Hope's Heroes

The Women of Hope proudly continues to support the Hope’s Heroes ministry which is dedicated to welcoming and nurturing young children within our church community.

This ministry provides age-appropriate Bibles, religious books and other faith-based materials designed for children at various stages of development.

These resources are displayed on dedicated bookshelves in the Narthex at both Hope Central Campus and Hope Lake Weir Campus. As the ministry grows, an additional bookshelf is planned for the southern campus.

To help children remain engaged during worship services, activity bags are available at the back of the church for use during services.

During special seasons such as Christmas and Easter, additional themed materials are offered either on the bookshelves or within the activity bags.

Hope’s Heroes has been a meaningful and ongoing ministry for several years, serving children and families at both campuses and reinforcing our commitment to faith formation from an early age.



**Vacation Bible School Happening Soon!**

## Calling all explorers:

Hope Lutheran Church invites all kids grades 1-5 to join the adventure during Vacation Bible School this year!

Vacation Bible School (VBS) returns to Hope Lake Weir Campus on July 13 - 17 from 12:00pm to 3:00pm. Children will dive into field-tested activities and new adventures in the safety of their loving church family.

We also need adult volunteers! To help, email [pastorjohn@hope4all.church](mailto:pastorjohn@hope4all.church) or complete the form on the church website.



[Click Here to Register a Child for VBS](#)

[Click Here to Register an Adult Volunteer](#)

### Gatherings of Hope

Pastor Rani is leading Gatherings of Hope on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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. Water, coffee/tea is provided. 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 May 2 & 3, 2026

Hope Central Campus:

Hope Lake Weir Campus:

4:00pm - 254  
6:00pm - 45  
8:00am - 154  
10:00am - 376

**Online:**

4:00pm - 70  
10:00am - 158  
10:00am (HLWC) - 17

10:00am - 117

**Hope at the Everglades Rec Center:**

8:00am - 125  
10:00am - 236



**Flowers on the Altar Given By...**

- Richard & Dinah Thies, in honor of their 56<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary
- Gwen Betty and Hoover Benjamin, in memory of Mildred Hoover and Ruth Benjamin

**In Memoriam**



Alice McKenzie passed away on May 5, 2026. Alice was born on February 3, 1943. She and her husband, Larry, were married on August 24, 1963. They joined Hope Lutheran Church on June 27, 2004.

Arrangements are incomplete at this time.

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

**Scripture Reading for  
May 10  
Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Acts 17:22-31; John 14:15-21**

**Scripture Reading for  
May 17  
Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**Acts 1:6-14; John 17:1-11**

**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](http://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](http://hope4all.church)

[Visit our Website](#)

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