

September 25, 2026



News in the Pews!



Digital Edition

Upcoming Events

Festival of Hymns Autumn Cantata

September 25 at 6:30pm at Hope Lake Weir Campus

Festival of Hymns Autumn Cantata

September 27 at 3:00pm at Hope Lake Weir Campus

Worship Servers Meeting

September 29 at 10:00am at Hope Central Campus

Blessing of the Animals

October 3 beginning at 8:30am at Hope Lake Weir Campus

Men of Hope Breakfast

October 8 at 8:00am at Hope Central Campus

90+ Birthday Party

October 11 at 11:15am at Hope Central Campus

Cookie Donations for Blessing of the Animals



Calling all bakers!

We are asking for donations of cookies to serve as refreshments during the Blessing of the Animals on Saturday, October 3 at Hope Lake Weir Campus.

Cookie donations must be brought to Hope Central Campus during office hours by October 1.

Please bring cookies in a Ziplock bag. Please do not bring cookies in your favorite plate or serving dish, as we cannot guarantee your dish will be returned to you after the event.



Hope Lutheran Church's Annual **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**



**Saturday,
October 3, 2026**
Begins at 8:30 AM



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



Pet Photos



Music



Giveaways



Refreshments



More!



Most pets welcome (sorry, no snakes!)
All pets must be on a leash or in a carrier.

This is an outdoor event. In case of inclement weather,
please see our Facebook page or website for updates.



(352) 750-2321



hope4all.church



@HopeLutheranVillages

Hope South Campus Building Project Update

Check out the amazing progress at Hope South Campus!

Our congregation's shared vision is coming to life before our eyes.

To support the ongoing construction of Hope South Campus, you can donate easily online by [clicking here](#).



Hope Southern Neighbors Social Night Update



The Hope Southern Neighbors Social Night will be on hiatus until the opening of our Hope South Campus building in early 2027.

When the group resumes meeting, we look forward to enjoying the beautiful new facility and welcoming new faces to our fun group!

If you have questions before our next meeting, please contact Sandy Dorman at (330) 718-1572 or sandyjdorman@gmail.com.

Catching Up with Council



Each month, Hope's Church Council meets to pray, discuss ministry, review finances, and make decisions that support the mission and ministry of Hope. We want to keep you informed about some of the highlights of our recent meetings. Click the link below to read the report.

[Click Here to View the Council Meeting Report](#)

Make Thursday Someone's Favorite Day - My Time Needs You!

At Hope Lutheran Church, we talk about being the hands and feet of Christ. MY TIME is one of the places where we actually get to live those words.

Every Thursday, something special happens. People living with Alzheimer's, dementia and other neurological challenges walk through our doors—and for three wonderful hours, they laugh, sing, dance, play, connect and simply enjoy being themselves. That doesn't happen without YOU.

**We're looking for MY TIME volunteers!
Hope Lutheran Church Central Campus -
Thursdays from 12:30pm to 4:00pm.**

You don't need special training. You don't need to be an expert. You simply need a willing heart, a smile and a desire to make a difference. Help with games. Join the singing. Encourage someone on the dance floor. Serve a snack. Or simply sit beside someone and make them feel seen. Your three hours will mean the world to someone else.



Someone is waiting for YOU! Come be the hands and feet of Christ. You are Hope. Please call/text Cindy Hanauer at (904) 327-1951 or Cindy@grandcentralfloral.com.

Special Ordination at Hope Central Campus

Hope is excited to host the ordination of Clair Watson in partnership with the Florida-Bahamas Synod on Saturday, October 10 at 11:00am.

Clair has been assigned to a newly authorized worshipping community in the Bahamas. She will be ordained here, then will travel to the Bahamas to begin her ministry.

Bishop Pedro Suárez will preside at this important service. A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome and encouraged to attend to support our Lutheran siblings in the Bahamas!



The Men of Hope Welcome YOU to Breakfast!

The Men of Hope invite all men and women of Hope Lutheran Church (and their friends) to the next breakfast on October 8 at 8:00am.

Mark your calendars to join the Men of Hope to welcome Kathy Beekman, Hope's Bookkeeper, as our guest speaker at breakfast. Our "Faces of Hope Program" continues, as we meet and learn about key people dedicated to serving Christ here at Hope Lutheran Church.



Register online by clicking the link below. Cost is \$10 per person and payment through the Hope website is required. The program starts at 8:00am in the Fellowship Hall at Hope Central Campus and concludes at 9:00am.

This program is open to the entire congregation! Bring a friend and enjoy this informative session in Fellowship Hall. See ya there!

[Click Here to Register for Breakfast](#)

Women of Hope Breakfast Meeting

Thursday, October 15, 2026 at 9:00am - Hope Central Campus

The Women of Hope invite both men and women to join us for a delicious breakfast and an engaging morning with guest speaker, Dr. Stephen Post, who will explore the rapidly changing world of Artificial Intelligence (AI).

Dr. Post holds a Ph.D. in AI from George Mason University and brings a wealth of experience as a pioneering researcher and industry leader. After serving as Director of AI Applications and VP of Simulation and Modeling for major defense contractors, he founded his own successful software company in 1996. Though retired since 2016, he remains deeply engaged in the latest AI advancements.

In this informative and easy-to-understand presentation, Dr. Post will put AI into perspective for our daily lives. He will address its unlimited possibilities for good, discuss concerns about its potential risks, and share practical ways we can all use these tools wisely and safely.

RSVP deadline is noon on Monday, October 12. The cost is \$10.00 and includes breakfast. Questions? Contact Bonnie Cook at (352) 460-7672.



[Click Here to Register for Breakfast](#)

Worship Server Meeting on September 29



There will be an important meeting for all Worship Servers on Tuesday, September 29 at 10:00am at Hope Central Campus.

OTC Accounts to Support Food Pantry



Do you have an OTC account through your insurance? Did you know you can use those funds to purchase items for the Hope Lake Weir Campus Food Pantry?

If you have any funds left over for this quarter, the Food Pantry neighbors

This short meeting will contain essential information for all our Worship Servers. Please make every effort to attend!

Questions? Please contact Pastor Rani at pastorrani@hope4all.church or call (352) 750-2321.

would truly appreciate any of the following items: Aspirin, Aspirin - heart healthy, Tums, Neosporin, Feminine pads, Gauze, and Hydrogen Peroxide.

Donations can be dropped off in the food pantry bins at all Hope locations. Thank you for all your help!

Make Your End-of-Year Giving Plan Now!

Required minimum distributions (RMDs) are the minimum amounts that must be withdrawn from retirement accounts on or before December 31 each year. Generally, one must start taking withdrawals from traditional IRA, SEP IRA, SIMPLE IRA, and retirement plan accounts at the age of 73.



Under previous law, these distributions would become part of one's taxable income for the year. However, under the Pension Protection Act of 2006, an IRA owner can satisfy the minimum distribution and not have to recognize income when making charitable gifts.

This is a great opportunity for people to use their IRAs to make gifts and see the fruits of their gifts during their lives by supporting Hope Lutheran Church's many ministries and/or to contribute to the Endowment funds which goes on giving in perpetuity.

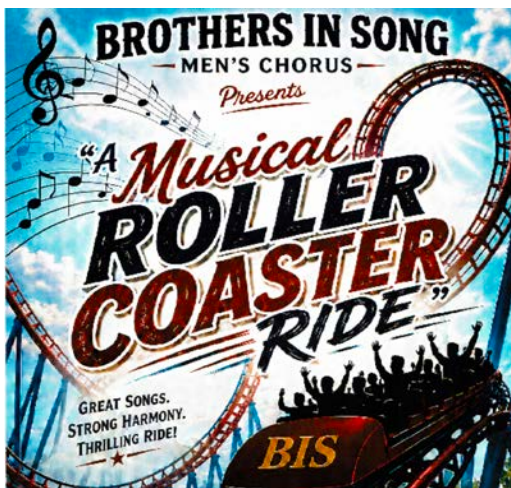
A distribution from an IRA to benefit the ministries of Hope Lutheran Church must be an outright gift distributed directly from the IRA trustee or administrator. Please seek the advice of your IRA administrator or your tax advisor to see how this can save on your taxes.

If you are planning a gift to Hope through your IRA and to ensure the gift is received by December 31, you may wish to begin this process soon as it may take a while for the paperwork to process and be mailed here.

Additionally, we will begin end-of-year 2026 closing on January 8, 2027. If you have any donations that you would like to count towards 2026, they must be received by this date.

If you have any questions, please contact Jill Myers, Hope's Donation Specialist at (352) 750-2321.

The Brothers in Song Invite YOU!



The Brothers in Song invite you to their next performance at Hope Lutheran Church!

A Musical Roller Coaster Ride

November 13 at 6:00pm
Hope Central Campus

Ben Osborne, Director
David Flanigan, Accompanist

Tickets \$20 per person. Ticket sales begin September 30. Click the link below to purchase, or buy your ticket at the door.

[Click Here to Register for the Show](#)

90+ Birthday Party Coming Soon!

Our 13th Annual 90+ Birthday Party will be held on Sunday, October 11, 2026 from 11:15am to 12:30pm at Hope Central Campus.

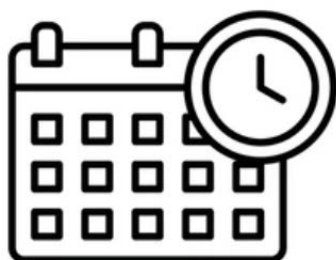
Hope members who are 90+ years old will be the guests of honor at this wonderful celebration!

If you have a friend or loved one born in 1936 or before, we would love to include them in the celebration. Please let Karen O'Brien know as soon as possible. Karen will require the individuals' names, birth dates, and addresses to mail their invitations.

We need your help to make this day a success. If you would like to volunteer with decorating, cutting cake, scooping ice cream, or serving a light lunch, contact Karen at fredandkaren@mpinet.net. Alternatively, you may contact her by calling or texting her at (352) 250-3909.



It's Time to Renew Your Room Reservations



Book Shelf



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

The October books are:

If you routinely meet at Hope for a class, group, or ministry gathering, it's time to renew your Room Reservation for 2027!

Please submit room requests with the current Team Leader contact information along with meeting information through our online form by clicking the link below.

If you do not renew your Room Reservation, we will assume your group is no longer meeting at Hope.

Questions? Please contact Pam Slating at pams@hope4all.church or call (352) 750-2321.

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

Second Monday, October 12 at 9:00am is *Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon

First Tuesday, October 6 at 1:00pm is *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles

First Tuesday, October 6 at 4:00pm is *The Emperor of Gladness* by Ocean Vuong

First Wednesday, October 7 at 9:00am is *Traveling Mercies* by Anne Lamott

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

SAVE THE DATE for the next BOOK EVENT on Sunday, December 13 in the afternoon.

Cards to Celebrate Carol Yeretzian

Longtime Hope member Carol Yeretzian recently moved from The Villages to the Heartis Buckhead Assisted Living facility in Atlanta, Georgia to be closer to family. She has settled well, but misses her Hope family.

Her daughter, Judy Adler, is hosting a special celebration in honor of Carol's 90th Birthday on October 10, 2026 in the Skyview Room. While members of the Hope family are certainly welcome if you plan to be in Atlanta, the family also asks if you could share photos, cards, or other remembrances of good times with Carol.

Cards and notes can be sent to Carol Yeretzian, c/o Judy Adler, 2303 Strathmore Dr NE, Atlanta, GA 30324.

If you wish to send photos, you can reach Judy either by using her Invitation App ([click the link here](#)) or by email to judyadlerpe@gmail.com. Select the smaller size for the photo if given the choice. Judy will place all photos in a Memory Frame that will scroll on a loop for Carol in her apartment.

Any questions? Please call Dennis Woodman at (231) 629-2699.



Hope's Financial Report as of August 31, 2026



Hope's latest financial report is ready!

Please click the link below to view Hope's latest financial report.

A limited number of physical copies will be available at each campus this weekend.

If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Hope Council. Email addresses can be found at hope4all.church/council.

[Click Here to View a Financial Report](#)

Hope Central Campus Golf Scramble



We're looking for golfers to join our Hope Central Campus Monthly Golf Scramble!

This is a fun way to enjoy golfing at a "no pressure" pace. Couples or singles are all welcome. It's a great way to meet other Hope Brothers and Sisters.

We play once a month, at a different executive course each month. Courses are north of Brownwood and as far north as Nancy Lopez area. Each foursome decides the day and time that is convenient for their foursome.

For more information contact Liz Morey at lizmorey1@gmail.com or call (941) 350-8986.

Florida-Bahamas Synod WELCA Fall Gathering 2026

November 13-15, 2026 - Warren Willis United Methodist Conference Center
4990 Picciola Road, Fruitland Park, Florida

Join your sisters from across Florida as we welcome the Holy Spirit to refresh and renew our souls with Worship, Bible Study, Workshops, Fellowship and Fun.

The Gathering will begin at 4:00pm on Friday, November 13 and concludes with lunch on Sunday.

For this gathering, there is a choice of commuter registration (daily attendance) or overnight registration, which is available for download on their website, www.flwelca.com. Plus, a list of available workshops to sign up for. Registration forms are also available at Hope Central Campus, at the front desk. Registration deadline is October 13, 2026.

Questions? Please contact Virginia Robertson by phone at (612) 619-0220 or by email at luvbutkus@aol.com.



[Click Here to Register Online](#)

Hope Lake Weir Campus Hospitality Team



All who attend fellowship hour after worship at Hope Lake Weir Campus are welcome to bring a favorite dish to share or a favorite item they've purchased.

The volunteers who work in the kitchen each week devote their time and love to their ministry and enjoy serving and bringing items to share. Your additional food items are greatly appreciated and add to the enjoyment of fellowship time!

The Hope Lake Weir Campus
Hospitality Team



[Click Here to Register](#)

Walking the Labyrinth of Grace

Women of Hope Fall Retreat

A Pilgrimage of Conversation, Reflection, and Renewal

What if Christ has been walking beside us all along—and we simply haven't noticed?

The Women of Hope invite you to join **Pastor John LeCain** at Hope Lake Weir Campus on Saturday, October 17 for a special day of conversation, reflection, fellowship, and spiritual renewal.

Rather than spending our day listening to lectures, we will become pilgrims together. Guided by the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we will share stories and conversation, enter times of silence and prayer, walk the labyrinth, gather around the table, and celebrate Holy Communion.



Along the way, we will consider a simple question: **“Where has Christ been walking beside me without my recognizing Him?”**

Faith is often less about finding a God who has disappeared and more about recognizing the God who has been present all along. And perhaps the older we become, the more sacred ground there is behind us—roads we once traveled without understanding but can now recognize as places where grace was quietly at work. There is nothing you need to prepare. Simply come as you are. Come ready to notice, receive, walk, and bless.

Come walk with us. The labyrinth may end. The pilgrimage does not.

The cost is \$20.00 per person which will include breakfast, lunch, fellowship and the opportunity to meet new friends in Christ plus enjoy Hope Lake Weir Campus (10495 SE Sunset Harbor Road, Summerfield, FL). The retreat is open to all women of Hope Lutheran Church, and we encourage you to invite your friends. Check-in begins at 8:30am, retreat begins at 9:00am until 2:30pm.

Registration deadline is Monday, October 12 at Noon. Contact June Cook at (352) 430-5025 or frankjunecook@gmail.com.

[Click Here to Register for the Retreat](#)

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. 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 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 September 19 & 20, 2026

Hope Central Campus:

4:00pm - 187

6:00pm - 63

8:00am - 106

10:00am - 269

Online:

4:00pm - 101

10:00am - 113

10:00am (HLWC) - 55

Hope Lake Weir Campus:

10:00am - 119

Hope at the Everglades Rec Center:

8:00am - 96

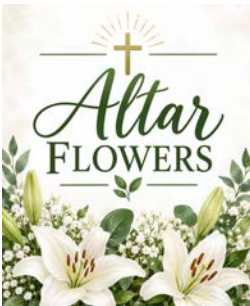
10:00am - 157

**Scripture Reading for
September 27
Eighteenth Sunday after
Pentecost**

**Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew
21:23-32**

**Scripture Reading for
October 4
Nineteenth Sunday after
Pentecost**

**Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew
21:33-46**



Flowers on the Altar Given By...

- Dave & Wendy Hulback, in honor of their 55th wedding anniversary
- Paula & Alan Herold, Barb & Dan Koontz and Lea & Bill Morgan, in memory of Rebecca (Becky) Piper

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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