

2021 Hope At-A-Glance Highlights (*COVID Year 2*)

A Distillation of Key Aspects from Our Life Together – especially those which are out-of-the-ordinary

Growing Deeper With God & Others – Worship, Scripture, Spiritual Practices, Community & Self-Awareness

- **54 Distinct Services** -- 47 Hybrid (In-Person + Zoom) – 46 Sunday + 1 Christmas Eve; 5 Zoom only – 4 Sundays + 1 Ash Wednesday on 2/17 (with starter ashes & DIY guidelines); 1 pre-recorded meditation for 12/26; 1 Drive-through Star Words & Car Blessings (& to-go cupcakes) on 1/3/21
- **Virtual Communities throughout Lent** – 1) “Knowing Me, Knowing God” Myers-Briggs Personality & Spirituality group, with 13 participants – learning how our unique wiring shapes our spirituality; 2) *Surprise Me, God* – daily prayer experiment using the book by author Terry Esau. Sixteen participated, with the author joining the final Zoom meeting on 3/31.
- Coordinated & anchored **72-hour Presbytery Prayer Vigil** surrounding 1/20 USA transfer of power
- **Bible Doing, Book Club, Movie Club Connections** (non-Lent) – Summer Book Club *Be the Surprise* (Marcy Kraft + author Terry Esau); *Finding Howard* film & 9/29 Zoom discussion (part of Global Peace Film Festival); Fall Zoom study on *Proverbs: Pathways to Wisdom* (Donna Adams); weekly Fall Zoom “Alpha Course” (co-led by 2022 Spring intern Carmen Torman), which 5 Hopenesters joined
- **Stewardship of the Earth** – “Earth Care April” with Movie Clubs for free film *The Face of God* (4/13) + 3 short online films (4/27); 3 more free online films (8/17), all led by Russ Kraft; periodic handouts and “Eco Dude” sustainability tips from Russ; Chad Lickfelt launched Hope 4 the Earth Facebook page
- **Spiritual Practices/Disciplines** – randomly assigned prayer triads to pray for each other during Lent; “Praying in Color” meditative calendars for Lent; free Virtual Stations of the Cross for Holy Week; guidelines for “Hiking with the Psalms”; free “Night Watch” Advent evening devotions from Presbyterian Outlook; free “Pocket Guide: In Times of Disagreement”; Fall *Gratitude Journal* practice
- **10th Staff Anniversary 7/1 for Marcy Kraft** – shared a basket with many of her favorite things
- **Fun** (despite COVID!) – *Pie Raffle on Pi Day* 3/14; *Paint Night* on 7/13 at home of Dixie Gibbons; lunch outing + *Big! the Musical* play at Garden Theater on 12/5
- **Friendship with Washington Shores Pres** – joined Zoom Maundy Thursday; hosted 6th annual shared *World Communion Sunday* worship 10/3 in hybrid format; Fall *Steps for Change* challenge for 4th year
- **Connecting with Each Other** – *Thanksgiving Potluck* – 20 from Hope and Oviedo Pres celebrated; “Meet the Parents” lunch & conversation on 12/12 for more recent guests with session and staff; periodic Zoom gatherings for young adults; heard from *Guest Preachers* Dr. Cheryl Carson (6/20), Mr. Derwin Penson (7/25), Rev. Dr. Frank Allen (10/10), and Mrs. Wendy Scott-Penson (10/17)
- **Care Cards** – to charter member Rob Folger (4/21) at announcement as UCF Professor Emeritus; Harvest Korean Presbyterian following their heartbreaking post re: rise of hate speech & acts toward Asian And Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities (4/21); Rev. Pam Masten upon her receipt of Doctor of Ministry (4/21); Dr. Stephanie Jackson, longtime principal at LNMS, promoted to district with Orange County Public Schools (7/21); incoming LNMS principal Mr. Rob McCloe (7/21); Carole Bahr, in hospital & with no family (7/21); Truist Bank + Small Business Administration (9/21) in gratitude for Paycheck Protection Program Loan forgiveness; Nevaeh Penson (11/21), away from home
- Hope Lake Nona’s **name arrived on Mars** 2/18/21 via silicone chip aboard NASA rover Perseverance

Reaching Wider to Serve & Share God's Love with the World – Local Neighborhoods, Central Florida & the World

- **Hope Scholars** – gave 5 college scholarships totaling \$10,900 to 3 Hopesters + 1 grad each at Lake Nona & Oak Ridge High Schools. *Since 2012, Hope has given 48 scholarships totaling \$56,920*
- **Golf Scramble, Silent Auction & More for Hope Scholars** – Tournament generated \$6,812 for Hope Scholars (*during a pandemic!*) with 16 teams and *lots* of volunteers at 2nd annual event on 5/1. Other efforts included tie-dyed cloth face masks from Nancy Aring (\$130) & Pi Day Pie Raffle for donations.
- **Other Scholarships** -- 3rd annual \$500 *Hope for the Future Community Service Scholarship* to LNHS grad; \$500 *Gratitude & Hope Scholarship* to a single mom staff member at LNMS, pursuing education degree
- **Recycled Electronics** – **12 old phones, 4 tablet computers & 4 other** electronic devices to Cell Phones for Soldiers, benefiting veterans & disposing unusable items in environmentally friendly way
- **Smoke Detector Safety Outreach** -- Gave 180 pairs of 9-volt batteries in compostable ziplock bags with guidelines to replace smoke detector batteries 2x yearly and to safely dispose of old batteries – along with info about Hope. Team led by Jeff Sooknarine stationed a table outside local Sam's Club on 12/10.
- **Secured & delivered donated hospital bed** to a family care home that suffered a damaged bed
- **Eradicated Medical Debt** – forgave \$310,600 via RIP Medical Debt by raising \$3,106 during Advent.
- **Forget-Me-Not flower seeds** with names of the 49 killed at Pulse Nightclub in 2016. Promoted *49 Days of Love & Kindness* thru 6/12, with 5/16 *Little Acts of Kindness Day* (Matt. 5.16), & 6/12 window candles
- **Steps for Change** – with Washington Shores Pres logged *9.6 million steps* to surpass 8 million goal & together raised \$2,135 to *underwrite a garden well* (and more!) through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog.
- **Lake Nona Middle** – *served COVID-safe lunch* (Five Guys Burgers or Chick-Fil-A) + hundreds of pre-packaged *desserts and drinks* for 5/3 Teacher Appreciation; *awarded COVID Superstar certificates and cash gifts* -- \$300 to teacher & \$200 to staff member selected by colleagues for extraordinary service amid a global pandemic; raffled *four donated AMC movie tickets* in May to a faculty member; *donor gave 50 bags of mulch* at the beginning of the school year; presented 16 \$10 gift cards to six local businesses for faculty raffle upon LNMS scoring as No. 1 Middle School in Orange County (Oct) on tests; from designated funds gave \$1,000 to assist teacher in crisis + \$2K to help 3 student families in crisis (Dec)
- **2021 Hope Prize** – \$1,000 & certificate to *Seniors First*, helping seniors keep independence & dignity
- **Food & Teen Clothes Drive** – collected 112 items of teen-style clothing + 168 food items for Lake Nona Middle's Sister School campaign during Lent
- **Assisted LNMS Cafeteria Hourly Worker** who traveled several times to Boston to care for & bury her father prior to unpaid summer furlough. Hopesters gave \$1,350 + \$100 Bravo gift card & 2 gift baskets.
- **Thanksgiving Meals** – Received food + cash/equivalent gifts to provide holiday meals for 14 families with groceries + \$40 Publix gift card; extra \$150 given to Servant's Heart food bank near Oak Ridge.
- **Ronald McDonald Hospitality Cart at Nemours** – gave 48 books, 46 snacks, 2 pounds of candy
- **Miscellaneous** – support of Penson Family with Wycliffe Bible Translators; surpassed 65,400 miles via *Charity Miles*; reached 1,079 microloans totaling \$27,475 in 82 nations through *Kiva*; 731 toiletries to *Ronald McDonald House*; funded 16 'Help Your Neighbor' Grants (\$1,015) for driveway repair, community garden, drive-through garden supplies & more; 12 lbs, 13 oz. pop tops to RMHS; \$705 to *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance* for Haiti & KY crises; *Valentine's & holiday e-cards* for St. Jude's Children's Hospital