

# Hope Happenings

## May 2024

*Our service offers a blend of traditional and contemporary worship style and music.*

**9:30 AM - Worship Service**



Happy  
**Mother's**  
Day

*Join us for worship in person or online via Hope's YouTube Channel*



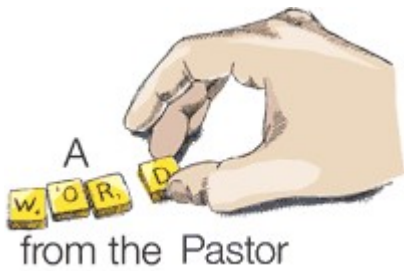
**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Hope Children's Center Preschool

An ELCA Congregation

29043 Vallejo Ave, Temecula, CA 92592-2307

(951) 676-6262 [www.hopetemecula.org](http://www.hopetemecula.org)



*"For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!'"*  
- Romans 8:15

How do we see God?

And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." - Romans 8:15

Throughout church history, most depictions of God in art have imagined a distant and exalted older man, often with a look of anger in his eye. Interestingly enough, most depictions of Jesus show him in softer and more compassionate moments. If Jesus was the exact representation of the Father's nature, why do we see them so differently?

Most images I had of God growing up were scary. They were never engaging or inviting. Jesus was the good guy. He'd fixed things with Father, or so I was told, but that didn't make Father any less scary. It wasn't always a comfort to know that God was watching me all the time. It kind of scared me.

If I was going to be around God, I always pictured myself hiding behind Jesus' robes. Paul, however, had no such image of God. He understood that the cross fundamentally changed how we get to view God—no longer as terrifying judge, but as he really is, our Abba Father.

Abba is the endearing, safe connection a small child has with his or her doting dad. When that recognition sinks in, watch out. Life will change. You will begin to feel safe in the presence of our Father in heaven.

God's small child, - Pastor Dan



## PRIME TIMERS

*(Hope's Senior 50+ Ministry)*

**THURSDAY, MAY 9TH, 2024**

**11:30 AM –to– 1:00 PM**

*In Fellowship Hall*

Our next meeting and luncheon will take place on Thursday, May 9th, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. The meal will be Enchilada, Refried Beans, Mexican Rice, salad and dessert. The cost for the meal is \$12. The program will be speaker Shalom and wife from the Bible Translator. Please sign up on the easel located in the church narthex so there is a head count for the food.

## HCC SPRING FLING

May 30th & 31st at 11:00 AM

HCC would like to invite you all to their Spring Fling! Come and watch and support the kids during their performances and refreshments will be served following said performances!





Love, Grace & Peace from our Lord Jesus Christ be upon us all.

We should first start off the month right by honoring our fathers and mothers. Exodus 20:12 tells us, "Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you." I often think about my father and mother this time of the year and I tend to cry. It is times such as this that I lean on Ephesians 6:14, "Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness." Happy Mother's Day, may all moms be blessed.

The Council has been hard at work on projects such as the HCC playground, the transition, the reconciliation, our finances and the memorials.

The Council would like to convey that we stand with you, understanding your concerns, and want to send out positive thoughts of love and kindness to all.

I will be gone for this month of May visiting family and seeing great grandchildren and babies. As I embrace the gifts bestowed upon me by God, I ask you to contemplate your own life and gifts, and to forever praise our Father for the mercy and grace He has shed upon us all. Our love goes out to all.

Peace, Love & Grace,

*Thomas J. Schwalbe*  
Council Member at Large



# mother's DAY

**SUNDAY, MAY 12TH**

**DON'T FORGET!**

A special thanks to all those mother's out there. May your day be blessed, full of love and fond memories! We give thanks to God for all our wonderful mothers!



**Faith Explorers**

**ARE LOOKING FOR LEADERS**

We are looking for volunteers to lead Faith Explorers. Materials are provided to volunteers and our confirmation students are happy to assist. Please contact the Church Office.

## Joy Circle

**WEDNESDAY**

**MAY 15TH AT 1:00 PM**

Our next meeting will be at the home of Bernice Moffet. Ann Sanzari will be our Bible Study leader. All women of Hope are welcome to join us.

**HOPE'S MENS GROUP:** Our next meeting is on Saturday May 11th, 2024 at 8:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall as well as on Zoom. We will study Chapters 12 & 13 of the book, "*He Love Me: Learning to live in the Father's affection,*" by Wayne Jacobsen. Please be prepared for the study on May 11th by reading the prescribe chapters and reviewing the questions at the end of each of the chapters.

If you would like a book or have any question regarding Hope's Mens Group, please contact Philip Hansen at: [philip717@verizon.net](mailto:philip717@verizon.net)

### *To our Hope Family~*

Thank you so much for ***ALL*** of your prayers, cards, and for helping us Celebrate the wonderful life of our parents.

Hope you know how much your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

*Thank You*  
for  
your  
expression  
of  
sympathy

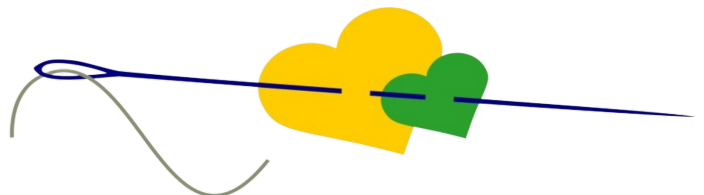


**The  
Jefferson  
Family**

### **PROJECT PILLOWCASE VI - GREAT WOMEN! GREAT FUN! GREAT GIFT!**

This project is blessing on blessing on blessing! Thrivent Financial supports us through the Action Teams, purchasing all the fabric and lunch for the participants. The ladies enjoy fellowship and mentorship as we pin and sew and iron and sew and turn and sew, helping and coaching each other along the way. Our scraps are donated to a member who turns them into other new products and our finished pillowcases bring a little joy to children who may feel scared and alone.

Our next event will be Saturday, September 14th, from 9 AM—1 PM. We hope you will join us! If you can pin or iron or sew or want to learn how to pin or iron or sew, you are welcome! If you wish to be on the email contact list, send a message to Barbara Meinke at [tb.meinke5@verizon.net](mailto:tb.meinke5@verizon.net). Let's keep the blessings flowing!





# COFFEE WITH COUNCIL



**Sunday, May 5th**

Council will be giving an update on the transition process on Sunday, May 5th, at the end of worship service with a follow-up Coffee with Council for questions following the service that Sunday.

~Blessings, Church Council



Hope Book Club meets monthly to read and discuss a variety of books. Our next meeting will be **Monday, May 20th**, at **5:00 PM**, at the home of Marta Bills. We'll be discussing the newest book by Anne Lamott, "*Somehow: Thoughts on Love.*" We welcome you and hope you'll join us. If you're joining us for the first time, please text or call Diane Anderson (951-834-3191) or Marta Bills (951-553-0972) to be added to our e-mail group and/or to get further information.



Let's talk *transition*. There are words like "eventually," and "comparatively," and "in the light of," or "in like manner." The most fitting, for our purpose, is "in the light of..."

It is time to introduce our Transition Team, in the light of moving into another phase of phunction. (*Got your attention, didn't it?*) Certainly we will keep our characteristics and personality, but there is strength and good health in *change*. In the coming weeks, you—every one of you—will be involved in round-table discussions. "Round-table" doesn't mean the table is round, it means every person is involved in the discussion. The team must know your thoughts to be able to see the vision of Hope's future. The purpose of the Transition Team is to summarize our past and present and our hopes and dreams for the future. This information will then be offered to the Call Committee who will be the searchers for pastoral candidates to be interviewed, then issue a "call."

The Transition Team members are Lou Long, Pastor Scottie, Mona and Bryan Dirkes, Lynn Petroff; long-time members, new members, clergy—a fine deliberative body.

The Transition Team has started to review the pre-Covid work that had been developed. If you would like to join this team, please contact Lou Long.

Watch this space....



**PICTURES FROM MAUNDY THURSDAY SEDER/AGAPE MEAL**

**ANNUAL SOCAL SPRING RING CONCERT**

**SUNDAY, MAY 5TH, 2024**

**AT 5:30 PM**

**Bells of Hope invites everyone to enjoy our annual concert in combination with other SoCal bell choirs. The concert will take place at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Oceanside. Bring a friend, or two!**

**ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
1450 SOUTH MELROSE DRIVE  
OCEANSIDE, CA 92056**

**(760) 758-4100**



**Handbell Musicians  
OF AMERICA**



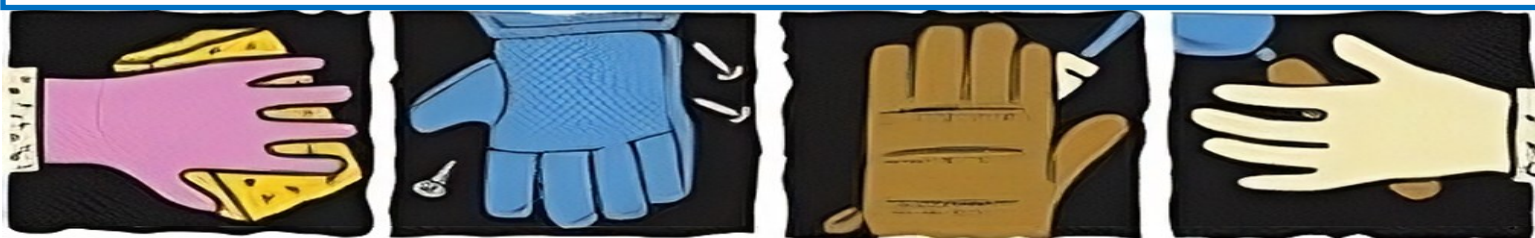
## MAUNDY THURSDAY SEDER/AGAPE MEAL



The planning, organizing, and implementation of the Maundy Thursday Seder/Agape Meal service was overwhelmingly rewarding. There were many, many people who helped make this a memorable event, but one person—who remained out-of-sight most of the time—deserves high praise. Blessings, blessing, Karen Lloyd, for juggling many tasks and a myriad of details. Karen has a dozen to-do lists for herself (and for helpers). There was the mathematics of how much food for how many people; there was which store carries which items; there was being patient with Lynn who ei-

ther didn't clearly see the vision, or just plain forgot what she was told. Behind every successful woman, there is a faithful man. Pastor Scottie devoted much time to develop the script, and do whatever was needed. Looking forward to making this an annual event, we have a box of all of the necessary information and items needed for next year. Rise to the challenge! Assemble a team to make this a Hope tradition.

Shalom ~ Lynn Petroff



**SERVANTS IN SERVICE**

### *Thank You to our Servants in Service*

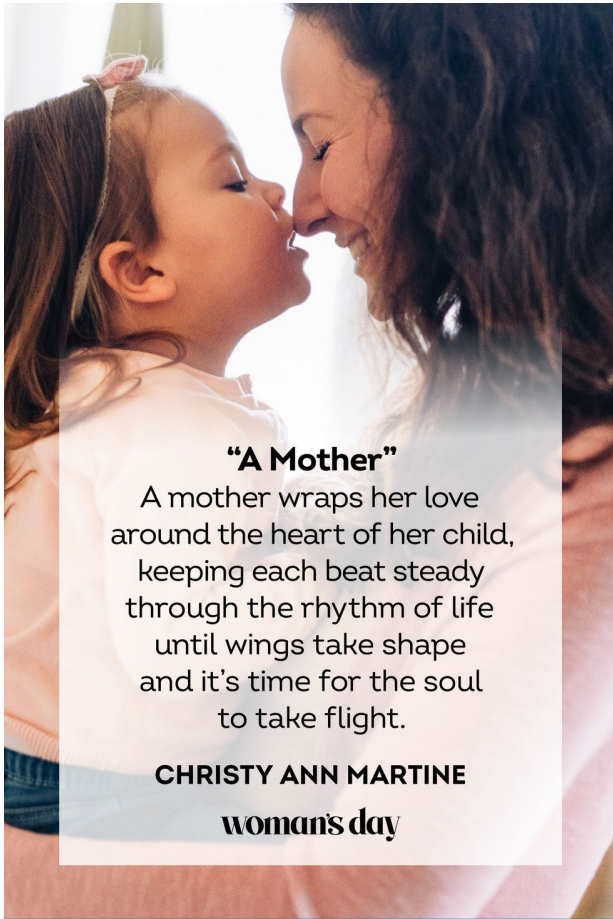
*"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." - 1 Corinthians 12:12*

It takes ALL of us to be Christ's body here at Hope. While it is impossible to thank everyone individually for all their acts of discipleship, each month we try to highlight a few folks who have been "especially supportive."

- ◆ The audit team which consisted of: Tony Chavez, Paul Davis, Donna Wulff-Davis and Lynn Petroff.
- ◆ Lynn Petroff, Donna Hedges and Cheryl Morg for taking the lead on recent funeral.
- ◆ Craig Cotten and Bruce Hodkinson for getting all the repairs done with the pre-school.

*If you know of someone quietly serving Hope...  
Please let the church office know so they can be recognized here.*



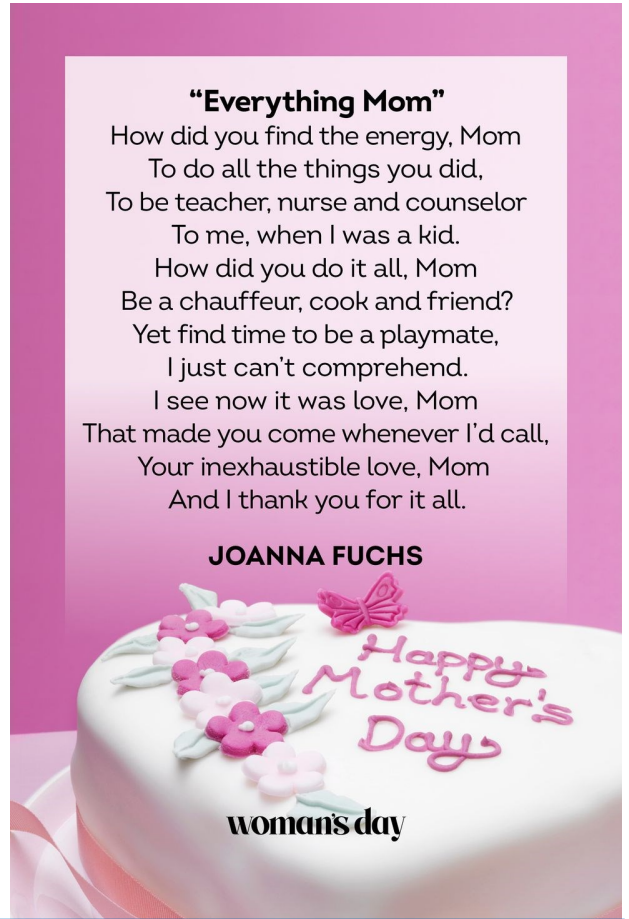


### **“A Mother”**

A mother wraps her love around the heart of her child, keeping each beat steady through the rhythm of life until wings take shape and it's time for the soul to take flight.

**CHRISTY ANN MARTINE**

woman's day



### **“Everything Mom”**

How did you find the energy, Mom  
To do all the things you did,  
To be teacher, nurse and counselor  
To me, when I was a kid.  
How did you do it all, Mom  
Be a chauffeur, cook and friend?  
Yet find time to be a playmate,  
I just can't comprehend.  
I see now it was love, Mom  
That made you come whenever I'd call,  
Your inexhaustible love, Mom  
And I thank you for it all.

**JOANNA FUCHS**

woman's day

Please visit:

<https://www.womansday.com/relationships/family-friends/g2316/mothers-day-poems-quotes/>

To view all the wonderful Mother's Day Poems from Woman's Day



### **“What ‘Mother’ Means”**

“Mother” is such a simple word,  
But to me there's meaning seldom heard.  
For everything I am today,  
My mother's love showed me the way.  
I'll love my mother all my days,  
For enriching my life in so many ways.  
She set me straight and then set me free,  
And that's what the word  
“mother” means to me.

**KARL FUCHS**

woman's day



### **“Wonderful Mother”**

God made a wonderful mother,  
A mother who never grows old;  
He made her smile of the sunshine,  
And He molded her heart of pure gold;  
In her eyes He placed bright shining stars,  
In her cheeks fair roses you see;  
God made a wonderful mother,  
And He gave that dear mother to me.

**PAT O'REILLY**

woman's day



# Food for Thought...

## MOTHERING GOD: A REFLECTION ON MOTHER'S DAY IN WORSHIP

By Amanda Highben who serves as Pastor at  
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Dublin, Ohio.  
Posted May 1st, 2018.

*Mothering God, you gave me birth  
in the bright morning of this world.  
Creator, source of ev'ry breath,  
you are my rain, my wind, my sun.*

– “Mothering God, you gave me birth”  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship, #735

When I gave birth to our daughter Cecilia, I was still in seminary and serving as the youth director at St. John's Lutheran Church in Zanesville, Ohio. Needless to say, it was a full and challenging time as my husband Zeb and I balanced our jobs, my education, and our halting, on-the-job education in parenting. One of the clearest things I remember is the exhaustion. In the first months of Ceci's life, I was convinced I'd never sleep again.

Thankfully, our St. John's community was a great source of strength and support for us. The parishioners delighted in Cecilia's birth and helped us in countless ways, from simply holding her during worship to bringing us meals and offering to babysit. The congregation nurtured us through this time of transition and we will be forever thankful for such a gift.

Still, St. John's is not unique in this regard. Many churches do a wonderful job of welcoming and supporting families. As Mother's Day nears, congregations are once again preparing to bless and honor the mothers in their midst. Because I've served five different churches, I've seen mothers recognized in worship in various ways. I have even heard entire sermons devoted to Mother's Day, though there is nothing in the lessons to warrant such preaching.

It is critical to be aware that Mother's Day is not joyful for everyone. Remember the diverse and

complex life stories of your people—The couples struggling with infertility. The children and adults whose mothers have died tragically. Those who have been hurt by or have strained relationships with their mothers. Women who cannot or chose not to have children, but have been endlessly told by contemporary culture that only motherhood can truly fulfill them. Families with two fathers. Women struggling with post-partum depression. All of this is complicated by our cultural determination to “romanticize” motherhood, which makes it difficult for mothers to talk openly about their challenges without feeling ashamed. In other words, if we fail to be thoughtful in our worship planning, a variety of women, men, and children might feel hurt or excluded when we intend exactly the opposite.

Yet: The commandments tell us to honor our parents, and the desire to bless mothers is good and Christ-like. It is an impulse that springs from a place of love. If we ignore it altogether in worship on the grounds that it is a secular holiday and not part of our liturgical calendar, then we risk conveying the implicit message that reasons for celebration in people's everyday lives don't matter to the church; we risk conveying the harmful belief that the Christian faith is disconnected from the world beyond our sanctuary walls.

This year, then, as we celebrate Christ's resurrection on the seventh Sunday of Easter consider how your congregation might recognize mothers in ways that are sensitive, inclusive, and faithful to your context. Perhaps this means focusing more on the act of mothering, or lifting up Biblical images of our mothering God (see Isaiah 49:14-16 and 66:13, or Luke 13:34). The petition for mothers in the Prayers of Intercession is also appropriate and poignant (Sundays and Seasons, Sunday May 13, 2018). Above all, pray that everyone who gathers for worship on this day will encounter Jesus' unfailing, all-embracing love.

Source: <https://blogs.elca.org/worship/1018/>



# May Birthdays

02 - Gary Check  
03 - Carol Goetting  
    Jenna Martin  
10 - Abby Knight  
    Bella Knight  
11 - Grant Holm  
12 - Sarah Martinez  
    Thomas Schork  
13 - Donna Wulff-Davis  
14 - Mary Ann Mericle  
16 - Elsa Arbues  
18 - Olivia Orner-Haun

Dan Pearson  
20 - Oliver Campos  
    Marilyn Dobson  
21 - Heidi Orrell  
    Terry Pregovisk  
22 - Janet Van Every  
23 - Brinda Jarratt  
    Wes White  
24 - Brandon Veron  
25 - Elliott Bills  
    Alyson Enochs  
    Suzanne Holm

Myrna Swearingen  
28 - Susan Garland  
    Donna Hedges  
29 - Jim Fenton  
    Lorrie McKenzie  
30 - Marge Anderson  
    Nancy Frommling



*At Hope Lutheran, we also like to celebrate baptismal anniversaries. If your baptismal anniversary is not listed, please call the church office to add!*

# May Baptism Birthday

01 - Ruth Griffith  
    Steve Prystash  
    Rae Rebel  
    Jim Sequin  
05 - Kyle Salesky  
09 - Jean Reed  
10 - True Hartman  
    Chris Lindberg  
11 - Cheryl Morg  
12 - Matthew Schork

Tasia Schork  
14 - Pam Danek  
    Adam Fenton  
18 - Janelle Garland  
19 - John Rosingana  
21 - Philip Zinna  
23 - Kristin Freiberg  
    Betsy Schork  
24 - Rose Marie Cathcart



01 - Chuck & Nancy Coe (48)  
14 - Soren & Janell Dockings (2)  
17 - Josh & Amanda Knight (16)  
27 - Jim & Leslie Riley (37)  
27 - Terry & Marta Bills (34)





# May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Adult Bible Study 10:00am-11:00am HCC Art Gallery 2:00pm-4:00pm	2 HCC Art Gallery 2:00pm-4:00pm	3 HCC Art Gallery 2:00pm-4:00pm	4
5 Worship 9:30am-10:30am Coffee with Council 10:30am-11:30am RIC Committee 10:30am-11:30am Band Practice 10:30am-11:30am	6 Counters 9am-10am Staff Meeting 2:00pm-4:00pm Bell Choir 6:00pm-9:00pm Bible Study Fellowship 6:30pm-8:00pm	7 Band Practice 6:00pm-8:00pm Choir Practice 6:30pm-8:30pm	8 Adult Bible Study 10:00am-11:00am	9 Prime Timers 11:30am-1:00pm	10	11 Hope's Mens Group 8:00am-10:00am
12 Worship 9:30am-10:30am Band Practice 10:30am-11:30am Youth Meeting 10:30am-12:30pm	13 Counters 9am-10am HCC Chapel 9:30am-10:00am HCC Board 2:15pm-3pm Bell Choir 6:00pm-9:00pm Bible Study Fellowship 6:30pm-8:00pm	14 HCC Chapel 9:30am-10:00am HCC Staff Meeting 2:30pm-3:30pm Band Practice 6:00pm-8:00pm Choir Practice 6:30pm-8:30pm	15 Adult Bible Study 10:00am-11:00am Joy Circle 1:00pm-3:00pm HLC Council Meeting 4:30pm-7:00pm	16	17	18
19- Pentecost Worship 9:30am-10:30am RIC Committee 10:30am-11:30am Band Practice 10:30am-11:30am	20 Counters 9am-10am Bell Choir 6:00pm-9:00pm Bible Study Fellowship 6:30pm-8:00pm	21 Band Practice 6:00pm-8:00pm Choir Practice 6:30pm-8:30pm	22 Adult Bible Study 10:00am-11:00am	23	24	25
26-Holy Trinity Worship 9:30am-10:30am Band Practice 10:30am-11:30am Youth Meeting 10:30am-12:30pm	27-Memorial Day Counters 9am-10am Bell Choir 6:00pm-9:00pm Bible Study Fellowship 6:30pm-8:00pm	28 HCC Chapel 9:30am-10:00am Band Practice 6:00pm-8:00pm Choir Practice 6:30pm-8:30pm	29 HCC Chapel 9:30am-10:00am Adult Bible Study 10:00am-11:00am	30 HCC Spring Fling 10:00am-12:00pm	31 HCC Spring Fling 10:00am-12:00pm	

# HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*An ELCA Congregation*

## PASTOR

Dan Cole - ext. 205

[pastor@hopetemecula.org](mailto:pastor@hopetemecula.org)

## MUSIC DIRECTORS

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Stephanie Dobson

[sdobson@hopetemecula.org](mailto:sdobson@hopetemecula.org)

Barbara Meinke

[bmeinke@hopetemecula.org](mailto:bmeinke@hopetemecula.org)

## SOUND/IT TECHNICIAN

Dustin Parker

[dparker@hometemecula.org](mailto:dparker@hometemecula.org)

## CHURCH SECRETARY

Soren Dockings

[staff@hopetemecula.org](mailto:staff@hopetemecula.org)

## FINANCE DIRECTOR

Susan Garland

[sgarland@hopetemecula.org](mailto:sgarland@hopetemecula.org)

## **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Mon-Thurs: 9 AM-2 PM

*Closed Fridays*

## **CHURCH PHONE**

(951) 676-6262

## **EMAIL**

[staff@hopetemecula.org](mailto:staff@hopetemecula.org)

[www.hopetemecula.org](http://www.hopetemecula.org)



## Hope's 2024 Church Council

### **EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

Karen Hansen, President

Bruce Hodgkinson, V. President

Dorene Swenton, Secretary

Cheryl Morg, Treasurer

### **MEMBERS AT LARGE**

Elsa Arbues

Lou Long

Tom Schwalbe

### **Have a question? Idea to share? Concern?**

The Church Council would like to hear from you. Contact the Church Office to get their contact info.

Thank you to all supporting

## **HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

with your time, talents and financial support!

1. To give a ONE-TIME or RECURRING gift online: go to [www.hopetemecula.org](http://www.hopetemecula.org) and choose "GIVE" in the menu bar OR scroll down and click "ONLINE GIVING." The button will take you to a secure page with easy, step by step instructions. Update your giving preferences any time.
2. TEXT "hopetemecula" to 73256 and follow the prompts for a one-time gift.
3. Mail a check to Hope Lutheran Church, 29043 Vallejo Ave., Temecula, CA 92592

## HOPE CHILDREN'S CENTER

(951) 694-3607

Paulina Escamilla

*Director*



[hcc@hopetemecula.org](mailto:hcc@hopetemecula.org)

Our Mission: Anchored in Christ...to Build and Grow Faith

Our Purpose: To share Jesus' love by reaching out and welcoming all

Our Vision: We will: *TRUST GOD* in the midst of what makes us anxious  
*CHOOSE FAITH* instead of fear and  
*SERVE MISSION* instead of our own comfort

