

Hope Happenings

May 2025

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

9:30 AM - Worship Service



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



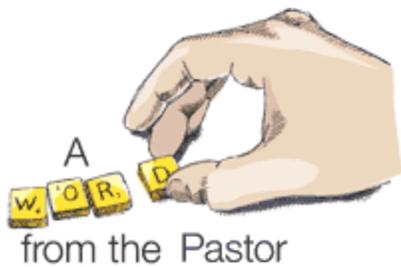
HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Hope Children's Center Preschool

An ELCA Congregation

29043 Vallejo Ave, Temecula, CA 92592-2307

(951) 676-6262 www.hopetemecula.org



"Be still and know that I am God" - Psalm 46:10

from the Pastor

When fear grips your heart, remember Peter's story. He was just like us—a regular person trying his best to follow Jesus. Picture this: there he was, bold as a lion, swearing he'd stick by Jesus no matter what. Then reality hit hard, and his courage crumbled like autumn leaves.

You know what? We've all been there. Those moments when life throws us a curveball, and instead of standing tall in faith, we duck and run. Sometimes we get so caught up in our own disappointments that we forget who's really running the show.

Here's the beautiful truth: our stumbles don't define us. When we're feeling weak, questioning everything, that's exactly where God's strength shines brightest. It's like having a superhero parent who's always got your back—even when you think you can handle it all by yourself.

Remember what Isaiah wrote? "Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation." Think of it as your spiritual power-up—not because you're strong enough, but because God's got enough strength for both of you.

So next time you're feeling shaky, take a deep breath and remember: it was never about your strength anyways. God's got this, and that's all you need to know.

Living in God's care, - Pastor Dan Cole

PRIME TIMERS

(Hope's Senior 50+ Ministry)

THURSDAY,

MAY 8TH, 2025

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

In Fellowship Hall



Our next meeting and luncheon will take place on Thursday, May 8th, 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 of the meal will be \$13. Our speaker will be Diane Anderson, who will share photos and tell about her recent experience teaching English in Bratislava, Slovakia in the ELCA's Central Europe Teachers Program. She'll give details about the school and students, the city and region, daily life and visits to places near the city and further afield with questions always welcome. Please sign up on the easel located in the Church entryway so we have a head count for food.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The pageantry of Easter is always one of the high points of our church year. The understanding of what Christ accomplished for us through his death and resurrection is fresh in our minds, but the joy and promise that accompanies that understanding should not fade now that the big day has passed. If we look at the church calendar we can see that there are six Sundays of Easter lasting all the way through the first week in June! So much promise and joy!

But wait! There's more!

The resurrection joy that is so apparent at Easter should not fade away even as the Easter season becomes a memory. We can carry that joy every day to help us remember the love Christ has for us and his teaching of the greatest commandment—"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this, 'You shall love

your neighbor as yourself.' There is no greater commandment than these."

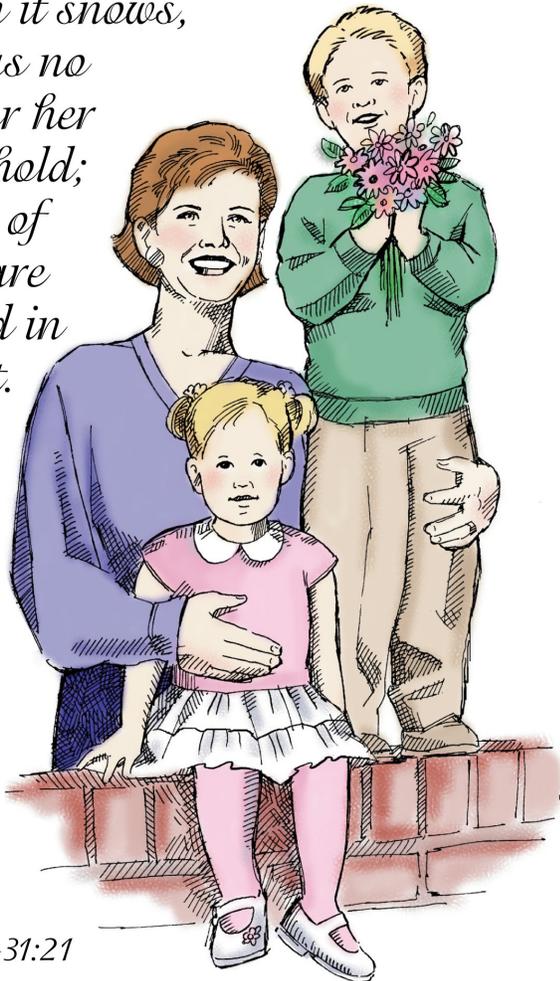
Pastor Dan constantly marvels at the passing of the peace at Hope. I believe the reason for the extravagant love shown during this time is a reflection of our understanding of this commandment and the promise of Easter. We must take these welcoming, loving expressions with us after our worship and bring them to a world desperate for love and caring.

Peace,

Bruce Hodkinson
President,
Hope Council



*When it snows,
she has no
fear for her
household;
for all of
them are
clothed in
scarlet.*



Proverbs 31:21

mother's
DAY

SUNDAY

May 11th, 2025

*Oh Heavenly Father, we give you thanks
for the Mothers in our lives as they bring
the love of heaven to earth as they wrap
us in their arms and love us deeply in their
hearts. Praise be to you for this terminus
love they share. Amen!*

RIC—Did You Know?

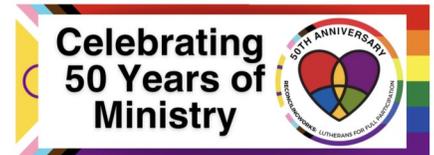
- RIC is a program that has been in existence since 1983 to develop a welcoming and affirming spirit in congregations for LGBTQ people.
- What is affirming? In relation to LGBTQ people welcoming them as they are.
- Benefit—Hope would be an oasis for people currently unwelcome in many churches in the Temecula Valley.
- Being welcoming to all means to accept and celebrate all as their authentic selves.
- There is NO COST to being part of the RIC program, all they ask for is a Good Will Donation.
- It is the understanding that we are unified in Christ to welcome all as they are.
- We believe that God values each person as a beloved child.

[Got Any Questions, Cares or Concerns?](#)

Please see the RIC Committee members

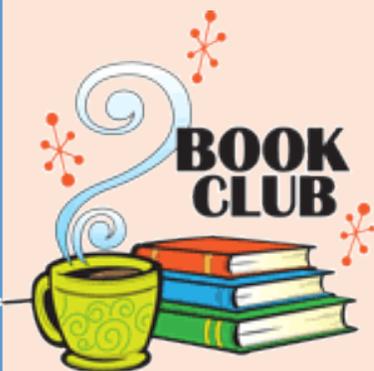
Lin Hodkinson (815) 404-8385 or aniewinnie@sbcglobal.net,

Mona & Bryan Dirkes.



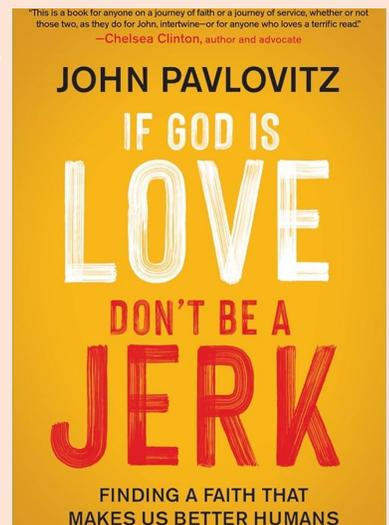
HOPE'S MENS GROUP: Our next meeting is on Saturday **May 10th**, 2025 at **8:00 AM** in the Fellowship Hall as well as on Zoom. We will continue our study of the New Testament book of Galatians. You are encouraged to read Chapter 5 as we will continue our line by line study of the book of Galatians. Paul wrote the letter of Galatians to churches he founded in Galatia (modern day Turkey), warning them against certain false teachers. Paul reminds the churches of the simple message of salvation by faith alone, which he and other church leaders teach and concludes with advice on how to live a Spirit-filled life. The words Paul used writing Galatians have very specific meaning and the information in Galatians is foundational to our understanding of Christianity. If you are able to read Galatians in a version different than you normally read, please consider doing so. We will study the meaning and messages in the words Paul wrote in Galatians.

If you have any question regarding Hope's Mens Group, please contact Philip Hansen at: philip717@verizon.net



Our May book club selection is: *"If God is Love, Don't Be a Jerk: Finding a Faith That Makes Us Better Humans"* by John Pavlovitz. We will meet on Monday, **May 19th** at **4:45pm** at the home of Holly Hartman. If you're joining us for the first time, please text or call Diane Anderson (951-553-0972) to be added to our e-mail group and/or to get further information.

Previous books read by the group are available to borrow! You can find the "library" in the narthex.



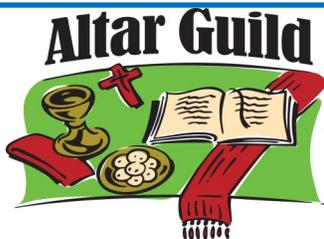
Hope Hysterical History

The month of May is a time to commemorate marvelous musical blessings in our congregation. Or is that done in June? No matter—we should celebrate every month for our music ministry who makes possible the inspiring part of each service.

Hope has been fortunate to be blessed with fine musicians from the very beginning, even before the Organization Service in 1978. The first musician (1975) was Mike Napolitano on the portable keyboard. (Remember, we were a nomadic congregation, never sure where we would be from Sunday to Sunday.) The wife of Pastor Klutz, our mission pastor, was Dagmar. She pulled together a “throw-away” choir that sat with their family until it was time for the special music. That’s what works when there is no choir loft...when there is no building. The wife of our first called pastor, Werner Welchert, continued the process. Marcella was a trained musician. Choir practice was held in their home in Heritage Mobile Home Park, Temecula. Pastor Welchert was also musically gifted, and often sang with the choir. (1979) Soon thereafter, Werner’s sister, Hedy Moessner, joined us to be pianist. Our choir had marvelous voices like Harry Zimmerman and Roger Hageman. While we were still in the “little church” on Rancho California Road, the Temple Band was brought to life by Dean and Melanie Aamodt, and Mike and Sherri Kreissig. About the same time, Barbara Meinke became choir director AND bell choir director. This part of our history has more to it. To be continued in June Hope Happenings.



Pastor Werner and wife Marcella Welchert



We are looking for a few *new volunteers* for the **Altar Guild**. If you want to join or have questions please contact Lin Hodgkinson at:

Phone
(815) 404-8385

Email aniewinnie@sbcglobal.net

Come Join Us On...

Tuesdays

from

6:30pm-8:00pm



JOY CIRCLE

WEDNESDAY

MAY 21ST, 1:00 PM

Our May meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 21st, 2025 at 1:00 PM at the home of Rosalie Hayward. The Bible study leader will be Jan Bolinger.



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."

- ◆ Thanks to the following for volunteering as Communion Assistant for Worship in the month of April: Carrol Kent, Kathleen Kovich, Karen Hansen, Lin Hodkinson.
- ◆ Thanks to the following for volunteering as Reader for Worship in the month of April: Bruce Hodkinson, Heather Haworth, Ken Wertz.
- ◆ Thanks to Thomas Schwalbe and Lou Long for volunteering as Music Leader in the month of April.
- ◆ Thanks to Craig and Diane Cotten for the amazing Empty Tomb they built!

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

Hope Children's Center



- Christian Education
- Full or Part-time
- CPR/First-Aid Certified
- Ages 2-5 years old
- Open Mon-Fri 7AM-5PM
- Wonderful TK Program
- Low Ratios

 NEED MORE INFO CALL US @ **951-694-3607**

 29043 Vallejo Ave
Temecula 92592



License# 334844407

 
check us out

Hope Women's Ministry



The Women of Hope have supported the Foster Youth Graduation over the years. Last year, three of our members provided a basket to be presented on behalf of Hope. If there are any women (or men too) in the congregation interested in this project, please let Ella Loschky know to make the connection.

Ella Loschky
(951) 894-2372

Baskets Due By
Monday, June 2nd, 2025



FOSTER YOUTH GRADUATION

THURSDAY ^{JUNE} 12 5 - 10 PM

Join us as we celebrate a pivotal moment for many of our foster youth as they graduate. It is a time to honor their perseverance and accomplishments. Please consider donating gift baskets brimming with thoughtful treasures. A simple gesture can profoundly impact these young adults, reminding them they are cherished and never alone as they step boldly into young adulthood.

Suggested Gift Baskets:

College Essentials Basket – filled with essential school supplies

Dorm Room Starter Kit – essentials for their new living space

Fun & Leisure Baskets – self-care, beach days, or cozy movie nights

Gift Card Basket Collection – fast food favorites, grocery delights, retail finds

Your generosity will bring joy, encouragement, and support to our youth as they embark on their next chapter.

Baskets due by Monday, June 2, 2025

Please reach out to Irene Capen at 951-228-5553 or icapen@fosterall.org.



Hope Lutheran Church

Financial Report thru 3/31/25

| | March | Year to Date |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Income | 28,502 | 84,833 |
| Expenses | 31,455 | 86,156 |
| Mortgage Principal | 3,014 | 7,607 |
| Balance | (5,967) | (8,930) |



Preschool Helpers Needed: Occasionally a preschool teacher is unable to come in at the last minute. This requires our Director, Paulina, to step into that teacher's classroom. That leaves Hope Children's Center's front office unattended and it also impacts teachers' breaks. If you are willing to help occasionally in Hope Children's Center, please contact the Church Office by phone or email and leave your name and contact information. Blessings.



Bells of Hope:

Mondays

6 PM to 9 PM,

We will continue rehearsals through the end of May.



To ensure the safety & security of our staff and preschool children and families, we ask anyone or any groups that will be meeting at Hope to notify the church secretary so the event can be added to the Master calendar. This includes all meetings, practices, vendor activities, etc. As we have more facility use requests it will help all to manage the activities at Hope.

Thank you ~ Church Council



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
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 - 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
18 - Janelle Garland
19 - John Rosingana
21 - Philip Zinna

23 - Kristin Freiberg
 Betsy Schork
24 - Rose Marie Cathcart



01 - Chuck & Nancy Coe (49)
14 - Soren & Janell Dockings (3)
17 - Josh & Amanda Knight (17)
27 - Jim & Leslie Riley (38)
27 - Terry & Marta Bills (35)



May 2025

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 Confirmation Meeting 8:00am-9:00am Worship 9:30am-10:30am | 5 Counters 9am-10am Bell Choir Practice 6:00pm-9:00pm Bible Study Fellowship 6:30pm-8:30pm | 6 Choir Practice 6:30pm-8:00pm | 7 Adult Bible Study 10:00am-11:00am | 8 Prime Timers 11:30am-1:00pm | 9 HCC Mother's Day Tea 10:00am-12:00pm | 10 Hope's Mens Group 8:00am-9:00am |
| 11-Mother's Day Confirmation Meeting 8:00am-9:00am Worship 9:30am-10:30am | 12 Counters 9am-10am Bell Choir Practice 6:00pm-9:00pm Bible Study Fellowship 6:30pm-8:30pm | 13 Choir Practice 6:30pm-8:00pm | 14 Adult Bible Study 10:00am-11:00am | 15 | 16 | 17 Piano Recital 10:00am-12:30pm Grape Stompers Club 5:00pm-10:00pm |
| 18 Confirmation Meeting 8:00am-9:00am Worship 9:30am-10:30am | 19 Counters 9am-10am Hope Book Club 4:45pm-6:00pm Bell Choir Practice 6:00pm-9:00pm Bible Study Fellowship 6:30pm-8:30pm | 20 JCS Pine Hills 9:00am-3:00pm Choir Practice 6:30pm-8:00pm | 21 HCC Spring Fling 9:00am-12:00pm Joy Circle 1:00pm-2:00pm Adult Bible Study 10:00am-11:00am | 22 | 23 JCS Pine Hills 8:00am-2:00pm | 24 |
| 25 Confirmation Meeting 8:00am-9:00am Worship 9:30am-10:30am | 26-Memorial Day Church Office Closed Bell Choir Practice 6:00pm-9:00pm Bible Study Fellowship 6:30pm-8:30pm | 27 Counters 9am-10am Choir Practice 6:30pm-8:00pm | 28 Adult Bible Study 10:00am-11:00am Bunco 5:00pm-7:00pm | 29 | 30 | 31 |

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

An ELCA Congregation

PASTOR

Dan Cole - ext. 205

pastor@hopetemecula.org

MUSIC DIRECTORS

Paula Arlich

parlich@hopetemecula.org

Barbara Meinke

bmeinke@hopetemecula.org

IT TECHNICIAN

Justin Strom

justinstrom@hopetemecula.org

CHURCH SECRETARY

Soren Dockings

staff@hopetemecula.org

FINANCE DIRECTOR

Debra Smith

financeminister@hopetemecula.org

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thurs: 9 AM-2 PM

Closed Fridays

CHURCH PHONE

(951) 676-6262

EMAIL

staff@hopetemecula.org

www.hopetemecula.org



Hope's 2025 Church Council

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Bruce Hodgkinson, President

Lou Long, V. President

Elsa Arbues, Secretary

Cheryl Morg, Treasurer

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Paul Davis

Kathleen Kovich

Thomas 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 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



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