

# Hope Happenings

## September 2026

*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*



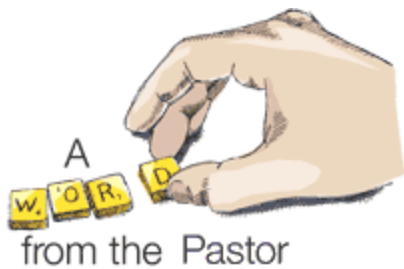
**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Hope Children's Center Preschool

An ELCA Congregation

29043 Vallejo Ave, Temecula, CA 92592-2307

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



## Rhythms of Life

As Chaplain Shane Frieberg has often said this summer, we are long into the Pentecostal period of the church year. That green season continues till November when even California weather shifts, children are deep into school, and we ready ourselves for the end of the church year to begin anew with the Advent season, Christmas, and beyond.

These church seasons are a *Kt zav Hachi'im* (Hebrew)-The Rhythm of life. This measured pace and rhyme provides us with a continuity of care from God, our creator and redeemer. Despite the pressures of job, school, and community concerns our lives are regulated to God's word of truth and grace such that no challenge is too big or change too overwhelming. Even the loss of a loved one is framed by God's story of the cross and resurrection for all the believers.

As we journey through our traditionally hottest month and wait for winter rains, we are invited by our Savior Jesus to deepen our relationships with him and each other as we forge new encounters with our neighbors. During this Pentecostal season there are many Sundays to celebrate special moments. Imagine this in September: God's Word, Our Hands Sunday (13 Sept); Holy Cross Day (14 Sept); Matthew the Apostle and Evangelist (21 Sept); and Michael and all Angels (29 Sept). October and November have even more moments to celebrate the goodness of God.

May I commend to you this rhythm of life God blesses us with to help us maintain our sanity and souls in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Scottie Lloyd

Parishioner and Pastor



**September 27th, 2026**

***Following Church Service***

Celebrate the 30th anniversary of Hope Children's Center with us on Sunday, September 27. Lunch will be provided by Hope Women's Ministry to honor this great occasion. Our speaker will be Paulina Escamilla, with sidekick Kathleen. Right after church! Pretend like it is the first day of school at a new school; sit with someone you don't know. Donations will be gratefully accepted to help HCC provide curriculum for the students. Sunday, September 27, 10:40 AM!



## Greetings Church!

There are blessing to be seen everywhere. We have been richly blessed over the past year by visiting pastors who have enriched our worship and given us some new perspectives and ideas to think about, not to mention a few laughs! Memorable for me was the pastor who commented on the friendliness of our congregation. As a newer member of the congregation, I agree whole heartedly with that observation and will say that that is one of the things that called us to join Hope. In fact, at the very first service we attended in person (we had been watching online for a while), I mentioned to one member that my husband was going in for spine surgery soon. Within minutes she had written her phone number down on a scrap of paper and offered any help we needed, from rides to meals, and this for someone she had just met! That is the true spirit of Hope and that spirit is alive and well.

These are trying times and in these times the

council would like to thank you for your prayers, input, and support as we navigate our way forward. We are open to ideas you may have. Please reach out to a council member if you have a brainstorm!

Finally, if you know of any members who need a hand, a visit and communion at home or some extra encouragement, our team in the visitation ministry is ready to help. Please contact me at 714 803 7184 or Cheryl Morg at 708 476 5549.

Continued blessings to you and may I be the first to wish you a happy fall!

Elsa Arbues, Hope Council Secretary.



## PRIME TIMERS

*(Hope's Senior 50+ Ministry)*

THURSDAY,

SEPTEMBER 10TH, 2026

**11:30 AM – 1 PM**

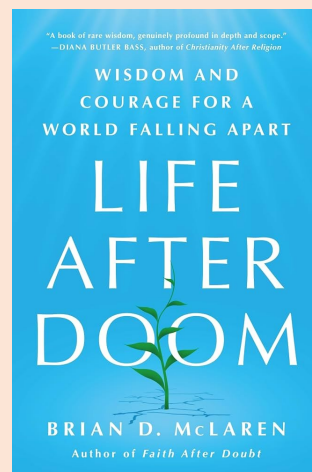
*In Fellowship Hall*

Our next meeting and luncheon will take place on Thursday, September 11th, from 11:30 AM to 1 PM in Fellowship Hall. The meal will be Roast Chicken, Green Beans, Salad and Dessert. The cost of meal will be \$10.00. Our speaker will be Diane Anderson, who will share photos and experiences of joys, wonders, learnings and challenges during her month-long trip to Nepal and India last Spring. From a trek high in the breathtaking Himalayas to chaos and mesmerizing architecture of cities like Kathmandu and Delhi, she felt owed by God's presence as she witnessed the exquisite beauty of nature as well throngs of worshippers at intricately built shrines and temples from a variety of faith traditions such as Buddhism and Hinduism. Please sign up on easel located in Church entryway so we have a head count for food. If you want to come for the program only, you may come on or before 12:30 PM and no sign-up is required.



**HOPE'S MENS GROUP:** Our next meeting of Hope's Mens Group will be on **Saturday, September 19, 2026** at **8:00am** in the Fellowship Hall. On 8/8/26, Pastor Scottie Lloyd kicked off our Bible Study of the book of Ephesians with an introduction to historical city of Ephesus and the origin of the book of Ephesians. Ephesians addresses the Power of Christ in our Lives and the Unity of the Church. On 9/19/26, we will study parts of the first chapter focusing on Greetings and Blessings and Prayer for the Saints. For our study of the book of Ephesians, we will not have a Zoom option. If you have any question regarding Hope's Mens Group, please contact Philip Hansen at: [philip717@verizon.net](mailto:philip717@verizon.net)

The next Hope Book club meeting will be **Monday, September 28th, 4:45pm-6pm** at the home of Cheryl Morg. Our September reading will be *“Life After Doom: Wisdom and Courage for a World Falling Apart”* by Brian D. McLaren. If you are joining us for the first time, please call or text Diane Anderson (951) 834-3191 for more information



## JOY CIRCLE & MARTHA CIRCLE

### MEETINGS TO RESTART IN SEPTEMBER

Joy Circle—**Wednesday, September 16th—1 PM**

Martha Circle—**Thursday, September 17th—10 AM**

**QUESTIONS? CALL ELLA LOSCHKY AT (951) 894-2372**



## Project Pillowcase



Our next project date is set for **Saturday, September 5th, 9AM-1PM**. It will be **Project Pillowcase XI: It's Raining Cats and Dogs!** All who wish to help, whether or not you sew, are welcome! We need folks to pin, sew, turn, iron and parade the finished cases. Please mark your calendars now and plan to join us as we sew up some very fun donated fabrics featuring furry friends! Materials and instructions will be provided. Contact Barbara Meinke (951) 312-0458 (talk or text) or email at [tb.meinke5@verizon.net](mailto:tb.meinke5@verizon.net).

**Hope Lutheran Church**  
**Actual vs Budget Summary**  
**Through July 2026**

| REVENUE               | Current Month    | YTD Total         | YTD Budget        | 12 Month Budget    |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| General Offerings     | \$19,790         | \$128,838         | \$148,750         | \$255,000          |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>  | <b>\$23,969</b>  | <b>\$160,395</b>  | <b>\$177,275</b>  | <b>\$303,900</b>   |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>       |                  |                   |                   |                    |
| Operating Expenses    | \$12,199         | \$99,659          | \$137,409         | \$235,549          |
| Mortgage/Interest     | \$ 9,550         | \$66,850          | \$ 66,850         | \$114,600          |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b> | <b>\$ 21,749</b> | <b>\$166,509</b>  | <b>\$204,259</b>  | <b>\$350,149</b>   |
| <b>NET TOTAL</b>      | <b>\$ 2,220</b>  | <b>\$ (6,114)</b> | <b>\$(26,984)</b> | <b>\$ (46,249)</b> |



## BECOME A PART OF HOPE'S PRAYER GARDEN



Hope Women's Ministry invites you to dedicate an engraved brick to honor your friends & family, to remember loved ones and pets, or to glorify God. Celebrate occasions such as birthdays, wedding or baptismal anniversaries, confirmation, graduation or other special events.

The cost of the brick is \$50, and order forms can be picked up in the church narthex. This is a wonderful way to leave a lasting mark for the future of Hope and the larger Temecula community as a whole. Payment needs to be made out to "Hope Women's Ministry" with a memo stating "Prayer Garden Brick." Blessings upon you all.

## 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 August: Kathleen Kovich, Lin Hodkinson, Carrol Kent and Karen Hansen.
- ♦ Thanks to the following for volunteering as Reader for Worship in the month of August: Ken Wertz, Cherie Gero, Lin Hodkinson and Polly Brody.
- ♦ Thanks to Lou Long, Polly Brody, Philip Hansen and Thomas Schwalbe for volunteering as Music Leader in the month of August.

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

# Hope Hysterical History

In the August Hope Happenings, some of the trials and tribulations of our nomadic congregation were mentioned. It was 1979 when we started searching for a different meeting place caused by no longer being able to use Lake Village clubhouse. There weren't many options, but people in the congregation "knew people." Some of the venues were Meadowview clubhouse overlooking the pool; Rancho Water conference room (the restrooms were so large, they doubled as Sunday school classrooms). Easter was under a huge oak tree at Glen Oak Hills. Up the hill to DeLuz, service in the front yard of the Ellickson's home. There were no e-mail blasts in those days, so members and friends had to be paying rapt attention to know where the meeting place would be the next week. Lutheran pioneers in the Temecula wilderness! Finally, in 1980, we were able to lease The Longbranch Saloon – thanks to Joan Sparkman and Roger Hageman. After many hours of clean up and air purification, we settled in for a year of stability. The pioneer spirit continued, though – no heat, no air conditioning, and a leaking roof during an unusually wet winter. We know difficult experiences build character. Hope was served and saved by some mighty big characters!

You are probably wondering how the congregation decided on the name HOPE. Read about it in the October issue of Hope Happenings.



**Bell Choir**  
**Mondays**  
**5PM-8:00PM**  
**Starting**  
**October 5th**



Come join us on  
**Tuesdays**  
from  
**6:30pm-8pm**



# Celebration of Life

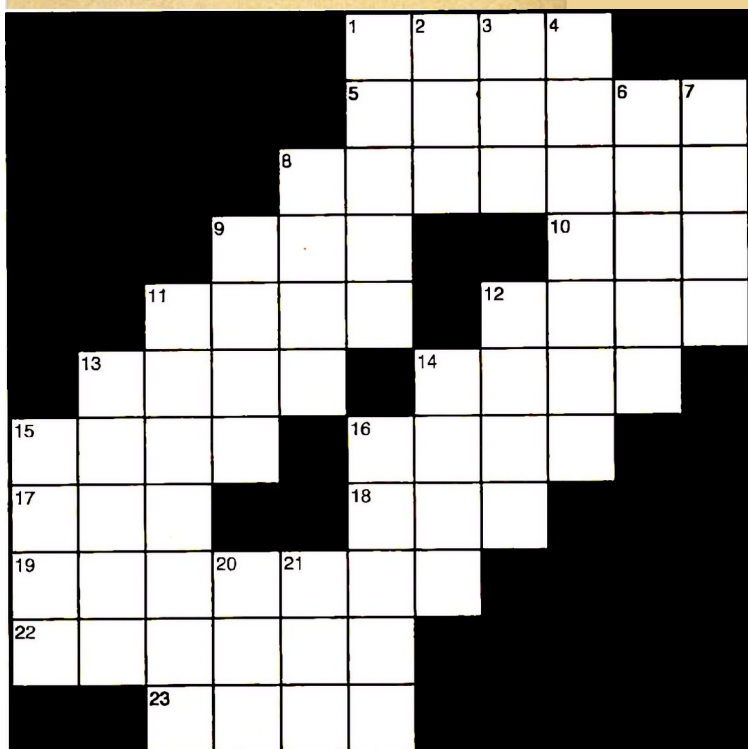
## MARY ANN AHOLA

**SATURDAY**

**SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2026**

**12:00 Noon**

**Hope Lutheran Church  
29043 Vallejo Ave.  
Temecula, CA 92592**



### ACROSS

1. "...and \_\_\_\_ the way against them that persecute me..." (PS. 35:3)
5. "And Judah sent the kid by the hand of his friend the Adullamite, to receive his pledge from the \_\_\_\_ hand" (Gen. 38:20)
8. "The vile person shall be no more called \_\_\_\_ ..." (Isa. 32:5)
9. "...fair as the moon, clear as the \_\_\_\_ ..." (Song of Sol. 6:10)
10. "...and from Cuthah, and from \_\_\_\_, and from Hamath..." (2 Kings 17:24)
11. "And it \_\_\_\_ to pass, when Rachel had born Joseph..." (Gen. 30:25)
12. "... which will not \_\_\_\_ the voice of his father..." (Deut. 21:18)
13. "... that my feet did not \_\_\_\_" (Ps. 18:36)
14. "... and upon the families that \_\_\_\_ not on thy name..." (Jer. 10:25)
15. "And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies b\_\_\_\_d them" (Rev. 11:12)

**KAPPA Books**

**Holy Bible Crosswords vol. 11**

**Puzzle #16**

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## ACROSS

16. "...and he made them a feat, and did \_\_\_\_ unleavened bread..." (Gen. 19:3)
17. "Men g\_\_\_\_n from out of the city, and the soul of the wounded crieth out: yet God layeth not folly to them" (Job 24:12)
18. "He put no t\_\_\_\_t in his servants; and his angels he charged with folly" (Job 4:18)
19. "This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, \_\_\_\_\_, devilish" (James 3:15)
22. "...for out of it are the \_\_\_\_\_ of life" (Prov. 4:23)
23. "And when he came home, he sent and called for his friends, and Z\_\_\_\_h his wife." (Esther 5:10)

## DOWN

1. "...neither cast ye your pearls before \_\_\_\_\_." (Matt. 7:6)
2. "...the elders of Gilead went to fetch Jephthah out of the land of \_\_\_\_" (Judg. 11:5)
3. "And she spake out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou among w\_\_\_\_n..." (Luke 1:42)
4. "Shall not all these take up a \_\_\_\_\_ against him..." (Hab. 2:6)
6. "...in the day thou wast born thy \_\_\_\_\_ was not cut ..." (Ezek. 16:4)
7. "...and some of them they shall \_\_\_\_ and persecute" (Luke 11:49)
8. "...that ye may be a new \_\_\_\_\_, as ye are unleavened" (1 Cor. 5:7)
9. "Fine linen with brodered work from Egypt was that which thou spreadest forth to be thy \_\_\_\_\_" (Ezek. 27:7)
11. "And he shall \_\_\_\_\_ the house with the blood of the bird..." (Lev. 14:52)
12. "...and upon all the \_\_\_\_\_ of Bashan" (Isa. 2:13)
13. "...bind the tire of thine head upon thee, and put on thy \_\_\_\_\_ upon thy feet..." (Ezek. 24:17)
14. "...which is by the flanks, and the \_\_\_\_\_ above the liver..." (Lev. 3:15)
15. "Salute the beloved P\_\_\_\_s, which laboured much in the Lord" (Rom. 16:12)
16. "I am become as sounding \_\_\_\_\_, or a tinkling cymbal" (1 Cor. 13:1)
20. "And a third part shall be at the gate of \_\_\_\_\_" (2 Kings 11:6)
21. "And precious stones: neither was there any such spice as the q\_\_\_\_n of Sheba gave king Solomon" (2 Chron. 9:9)

**LABOR**  
**DAY**

Monday

**September 7th, 2026**

**Church Office will be closed.**

# September Birthdays

01 - Trudy Gunning  
05 - Cory Sanders  
06 - Lyndey Sanders  
    Martin Wesel  
12 - Amanda Knight  
    Kathleen Kovich  
13 - Amy Gabrielson  
    Carrol Kent  
    Yuki Wertz  
14 - Tiernan Zinna  
16 - Nancy Coe

17 - Erica Kreske  
21 - Leslie Langlais  
24 - Karen Hansen  
    Lynn Petroff  
    Alex Veron  
25 - William Schork  
27 - Marina Wesel  
    Soren Dockings  
28 - Michelle Check



## September Baptism Birthday

01 - Anna Koelln  
02 - Amanda Enochs  
    Alyson Enochs  
03 - Elliott Bills  
06 - Marissa Bills  
09 - Tracy Meinke  
11 - Brenda Wright  
17 - Holy Veron  
18 - Ella Loschky  
19 - Dave Baggest  
22 - Taylor Baggest

Amanda Knight  
23 - Abigail Strom  
25 - Dylan Enochs



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

10 - Bill & Nancy Frommling (21)  
11 - Jim & Cherie Gero (40)  
27 - William & Betsy Schork (29)  
30 - Steve & Audrey Healy (31)



# September 2026

| Sunday                                                                                                                          | Monday                                                                                                                     | Tuesday                                                   | Wednesday                                                                      | Thursday                                                                                      | Friday                              | Saturday                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                            | 1                                                         | 2<br>Adult Bible Study<br>10:00am-11:00am                                      | 3<br>AA Meeting<br>7:00pm-8:00pm                                                              | 4<br>Love Church<br>7:00pm-10:00pm  | 5<br>Project Pillowcase XI<br>9:00am-1:00pm     |
| 6<br>Worship 9:30am-10:30am<br>Love Church Worship<br>1:00pm-6:00pm                                                             | 7-Labor Day<br><br>Church Office Closed | 8<br>Counters 9am-10am<br>Choir Practice<br>6:30pm-8:00pm | 9<br>Adult Bible Study<br>10:00am-11:00am                                      | 10<br>Prime Timers<br>11:30am-1:00pm<br>Bunco<br>5:00pm-7:00pm<br>AA Meeting<br>7:00pm-8:00pm | 11<br>Love Church<br>7:00pm-10:00pm | 12<br>Mary Ann Ahola Memorial<br>12:00pm-1:00pm |
| 13<br>Worship 9:30am-10:30am<br>Love Church Worship<br>1:00pm-6:00pm                                                            | 14<br>Counters 9am-10am<br>Bible Study Fellowship<br>6:45pm-8:15pm                                                         | 15<br>Choir Practice<br>6:30pm-8:00pm                     | 16<br>Adult Bible Study<br>10:00am-11:00am<br>Joy Circle<br>1:00pm-2:00pm      | 17<br>Martha Circle<br>10:00am-12:00pm<br>AA Meeting<br>7:00pm-8:00pm                         | 18<br>Love Church<br>7:00pm-10:00pm | 19<br>Hope's Mens Group<br>8:00am-9:00am        |
| 20<br>Worship 9:30am-10:30am<br>Love Church Worship<br>1:00pm-6:00pm                                                            | 21<br>Counters 9am-10am<br>Bible Study Fellowship<br>6:45pm-8:15pm                                                         | 22<br>Choir Practice<br>6:30pm-8:00pm                     | 23<br>Adult Bible Study<br>10:00am-11:00am                                     | 24<br>AA Meeting<br>7:00pm-8:00pm                                                             | 25<br>Love Church<br>7:00pm-10:00pm | 26<br>Love Church<br>8:00am-12:00pm             |
| 27<br>Worship 9:30am-10:30am<br>30 <sup>th</sup> Hope Children Center<br>10:30am-1:00pm<br>Love Church Worship<br>1:00pm-6:00pm | 28<br>Counters 9am-10am<br>Hope Book Club<br>4:45pm-6:00pm<br>Bible Study Fellowship<br>6:45pm-8:15pm                      | 29<br>Choir Practice<br>6:30pm-8:00pm                     | 30<br>Adult Bible Study<br>10:00am-11:00am<br>JCS Pine Hills<br>11:30am-2:30pm |                                                                                               |                                     |                                                 |

# HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*An ELCA Congregation*

## PASTOR

- ext. 205

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

## MUSIC DIRECTORS

Paula Arlich

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

Barbara Meinke

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

## CHURCH SECRETARY

Soren Dockings

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

## FINANCE DIRECTOR

Debra Smith

[financeminister@hopetemecula.org](mailto:financeminister@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 2026 Church Council

### EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Bruce Hodgkinson, President

Lou Long, V. President

Elsa Arbues, Secretary

Paul Davis, Treasurer

### MEMBERS AT LARGE

Bryan Dirkes

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](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