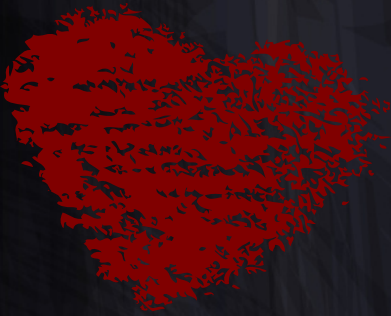


Mission Moments



1 CORINTHIANS
13:4-7



February 2023

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STORMS NEVER LAST?

A few months ago, I received a strong response to a devotional I wrote for the newsletter, referencing an old rock song by Ringo Starr. To give equal time to another favorite music genre, I'd like to invite you to focus with me for a moment on a favorite old country song, recorded by Jessi Colter and Waylon Jennings. "Storms Never Last" is a slow-moving, lyrical ballad, and the singers' soaring harmonies are memorable. The lyrics of the chorus go like this.

*Storms never last, do they, baby
Bad times all pass with the winds
Your hand in mine stills the thunder
And you make the sun want to shine*

It's a love song, and the singers express a really nice, positive view about the power of love to help us through life's troubles. The song talks about the hardships and trials of life, and makes the point that those struggles never last, just as storms in nature always pass.

I like hopeful, positive songs, and maybe you do, too. But some folks who are reading this devotional might be going through storms that just aren't going away. Sometimes our seasons of human suffering are brief, but sometimes those seasons seem interminable. Yes, it's a great blessing to have a human loved one to share life's hard times. The hard truth, though, is that even the power of love doesn't always "still the thunder." Clinging to the hand of a loved one is a powerful thing, but - with all respect to Jessi and Waylon -- that doesn't always "make the sun want to shine," does it?

There is one loved one, though, who is the Master of the storms. There is one, and only one, who can still the thunder and control the sun's shining. There is one hand to cling to that is stronger and more efficacious than any other. There is one love that far surpasses all others, and that makes the supreme difference when you and I are going through stormy seasons.

Jesus. Only Jesus.

Cling to him. Pray to him. Immerse yourself in his Word. Trust in his love. Believe in his promise to see you through this life's storms, and to share the blissful, storm-free, never-ending life in heaven with you. Only in Christ Jesus do "storms never last!"

Peace,



Pastor Wayne Puls

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE

Through – February 15

www.hopelutheranwf.org/wna

WNA is Hope's midweek ministry opportunity for children, youth, and adults of all ages to gather for dinner, Bible study, fellowship, and fun!

Dinner 5:30 – 6:15 PM

The Men of Hope provides a delicious meal, dessert, and drinks each week. The cost is \$6 for adults & youth, \$3 for children ages 5-10, and kids 5 and under are free. There is a \$22 family maximum. Check Out our webpage for each week's dinner.

Music

- Children's Choir – (Grades K-5) at 5PM.
- Children's Handbells (Grades 2-5) at 5:45PM
- Adult Handbells at 6:15PM
- Senior Choir at 7:30PM

Kids & Youth 6:30-7:30PM

- Ages 2 & Under in the Nursery
- Preschool (3 & Up) through 1st Grade in Preschool Room 1
- 2-4 Grade in Children's Center
- 5&6 Grade Youth Group in the Youth Center
- 7&8 Grade Youth Group in the Youth Center

Adult Education 6:30-7:30PM

Congregational Study: "St. Matthew Presents The Christ"
Adult Ed will take place in room 301

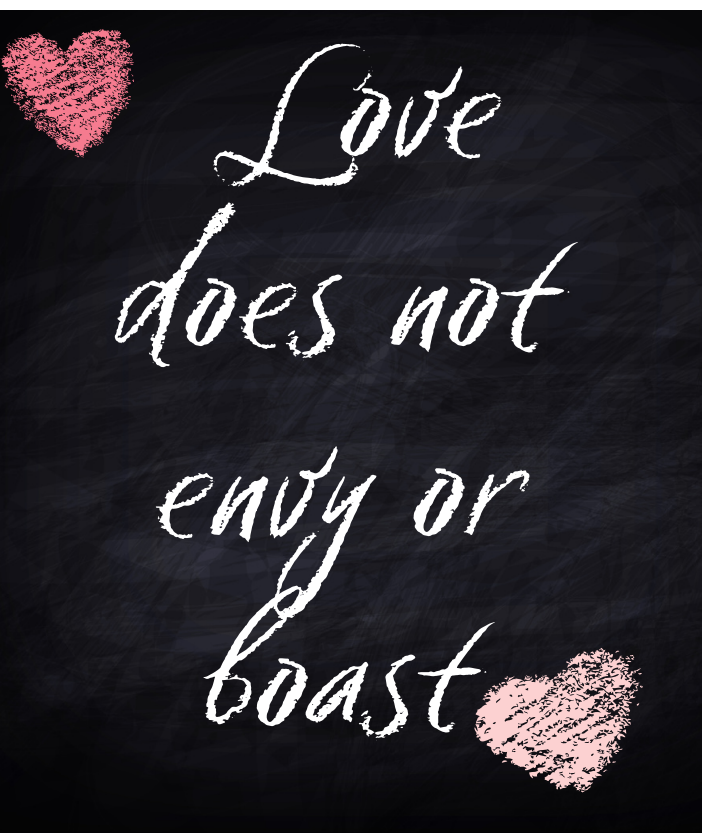
Upcoming Themes & Dinners

- 2/1/23- Face Paint & Temporary Tattoos; Chicken Parmesan, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad
- 2/8/23- 3D Art; Taco Wednesday, Salad, Dessert
- 2/15/23- Western Night; Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Chips, Salad, Dessert

NEWS & EVENTS

SUPER BOWL CHILI SALE

On February 11 & 12, before and after services, the Men of Hope will be back with their famous Chili Sale. The group will be selling three types of chili: a mild beef chili, vegetable chili, and white chicken chili. The Men of Hope prepare and cook the chili Saturday morning using the freshest ingredients, yielding a hearty and healthy meal. Please plan to buy a couple of quarts and have something great for your Super Bowl viewing (or freeze for a later meal). All proceeds go towards the Men of Hope's funding for new chairs and tables for the Children's Center. \$8 per quart.



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER

New Member Classes starts
March 5 - from 9:45 - 10:45AM.

There have been a lot of new guests at Hope and we're excited about your presence! If you would like to know more about the mission and vision of Hope, we invite you to attend the next New Member Class. Activities for children and youth of all ages are available through Sunday School during the class time.

All persons interested in becoming members of Hope or transferring their membership from another Lutheran church are invited. There is no obligation to join by attending the class!

OFFERING ENVELOPES

The printing company that mails Hope's offering envelopes has notified us that those envelopes will not be available for February. Rest assured, if you place a check in the offering plate near the back of the sanctuary without the standard offering envelope, the contribution will still be tabulated on your annual giving report. There will be a stack of plain envelopes available in case you wish to place your offering in an envelope, and it is not necessary to know your envelope number in order to give. If you prefer to utilize an online solution during this time, or at any time throughout the year, please see details at <https://hopelutheranwf.org/give/>. We apologize for any inconvenience! The company expects the supply chain and staffing challenges to be resolved for March's envelope mailing.

CONGREGATION NEWS

Hope's Congregational Assembly met on Sunday, January 29, and took some important steps together to advance and support our mission, as "the people of Hope Lutheran Church proclaim and live the Word and love of Christ."

- ✓ To fill Hope's vacant Director of Christian Education position after Steve McCarthy accepted a Call to another congregation, a recommendation was approved to request a DCE intern from Concordia University Irvine (CA) for the 2023-24 year. The intern would be a spring graduate who has completed course work to be certified in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod as a DCE. During the year of internship, if both the congregation and the intern are in agreement, the congregation will have the option to extend a Call for the intern to remain at Hope as a DCE. The official announcement regarding assignment of a DCE intern will be made in late March. Pray for the Lord to provide a wonderful new member of our ministry team through this process.
- ✓ The Call Team presented a report on the search process for an Associate Pastor. Over the past months, the focus has been on candidates from the field, who are currently serving in other congregations. A great deal of work has been done in this part of the search, as the Call Team has reviewed a total of 28 candidates. Many of them would be viable candidates for the position, but are not currently available, are not willing to be considered at present, or were removed from consideration for a variety of reasons. The Call Team consequently presented a recommendation for the congregation extend a Call for a seminary candidate to be placed as Hope's Associate Pastor, and that recommendation was approved by the Congregational Assembly. Three candidates were interviewed by the Call Team earlier this month, and the Call requests placement following a preferred ranking. There is no guarantee that a candidate will be placed at Hope, as many congregations are seeking placements from the seminary, and the number of graduates is low. The official announcement regarding placement of a seminary candidate at Hope will be made in late April. Pray for God's Spirit to guide this placement process in every way.
- ✓ Hope's Ministry Leadership Team, along with the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, proposed a 2023 Ministry Budget, which was approved by the Congregational Assembly. We are deeply thankful for all those who support the Lord's work here at Hope with gifts and offerings, and we pray for God's blessings on our common ministry in 2023.
- ✓ Current members of the Ministry Leadership Team are David Critchley (Chair), Rob Niesel (Vice Chair), Mike Dennen (Secretary), Aaron Beaulieu, Caroline Broughton, Jim Buddo (newly elected), Rodger Fulbright, Mike Owens, Nancy Repak, Jill Schaefer, Alex Schandert, Beth Webb (newly elected). Serving as Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer are Kathy Mesner and Jerry Garlington. Give thanks to God for all who serve and lead at Hope, as we continue forward with our mission.

HOPE IS HIRING!

Little Blessings

Looking for a few people to take care of children ages birth to 2 years old in a loving Christian environment. Flexible 3-4 days a week from 8:15-12:45. Contact Director Tracy Zwickis (littleblessing@hopelutheranwf.org) if interested.

Nursery

Looking for paid workers to take care of children ages birth to 4 years old for Sunday mornings services, Sunday School, and Bible studies. Contact Lead DCE Beth Agner (bagner@hopelutheranwf.org) if interested.

Xplore Track Out Camp

looking for high energy counselors who enjoy spending time with kids. Looking for year round employees. Shifts are 7:30-12:30 or 12:30-5:30 (with flexibility.) Contact Lead DCE Beth Agner (bagner@hopelutheranwf.org) if interested.

What's Cooking

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER

On February 21, come on out and get all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, and bacon. Men of Hope will be cooking plain, chocolate chip, and blueberry pancakes. Gluten-free pancakes are available on request. The cost is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children and youth, and children under 5 free. There is a maximum charge of \$24 for a family. Proceeds will go for new tables and chairs for the Children's Center.

LENTEN SOUP AND SANDWICH

Beginning Ash Wednesday, February 22, Men of Hope will be serving soup and sandwiches before the Lenten services, 5:30 to 6:15PM. All free-will donations support the Men of Hope service projects. Below is a list of the soup and sandwiches:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| February 22 | The Agner: grilled cheese, tomato, and bacon sandwich served with chicken noodle soup |
| March 1 | The Lineberger: sausage, peppers, and onion sandwich served with pasta fagioli soup |
| March 8 | The Fisher: turkey, bacon, and tomato sandwich served with Italian wedding soup |
| March 15 | The Spottiswood: ham and swiss cheese sandwich served with vegetable soup |
| March 22 | The Varner: egg salad and pimiento cheese sandwich with ham and bean soup |
| March 29 | The Vicar: meatball parmigiana sandwich served with chicken and rice soup |



Save the Dates

UPCOMING LENT & HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

ASH WEDNESDAY
7:00PM

2/22

MIDWEEK SERVICES
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS 7:00PM

3/1-3/29

PALM SUNDAY
5:30PM; 8:30 & 11:00AM

4/1-2

MAUNDY THURSDAY
7:00PM

4/6

GOOD FRIDAY
7:30PM

4/7

EGGSTRAVAGANZA
10:00AM

4/8

EASTER SERVICES
6:30, 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00AM

4/9



To see more of Hope's Missions, please go to Hope's website
for a full list. www.hopelutheranwf.org/missions



M

The people of Hope Lutheran Church are committed to making a positive, joyful, caring impact on the community around us.

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Tri-area Ministry

This wonderful organization allows registered families to come in once a month to pick up a bag stuffed with groceries for no charge. A collection bin is available in the cafe' area at Hope, and you are welcome to donate at any time. Questions? Contact Jill Schaefer at jmschaef@yahoo.com.

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Brown Bag Ministry

Brown Bag Ministry distributes about 100 lunches to local neighborhoods the 3rd Saturday each month. Volunteers gather to assemble and distribute nutritious lunches. Want to get involved? Visitors, families, or individuals are always welcome to sign up online to volunteer!

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Habitat

Habitat for Humanity is developing a new affordable housing subdivision called "Old Poole Place" in Southeast Raleigh. One of the homes in "Old Poole Place" is being sponsored by the Lutheran Faith Coalition (12 Lutheran Churches in our area). The Habitat goal is to have this new home turned over to the new family in late June 2023. Hope Lutheran Church - Wake Forest is a part of this coalition and is supporting the construction of this new affordable home. This build will be done with volunteers from each Lutheran Church in the coalition. To support this effort, we need 4 volunteers on February 11 for the ceremonial build. *Get Signup*

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S



Love is not arrogant or rude



NIGHT *to Shine*

SPONSORED BY THE **TIM TEBOW**
FOUNDATION™

Volunteers Needed

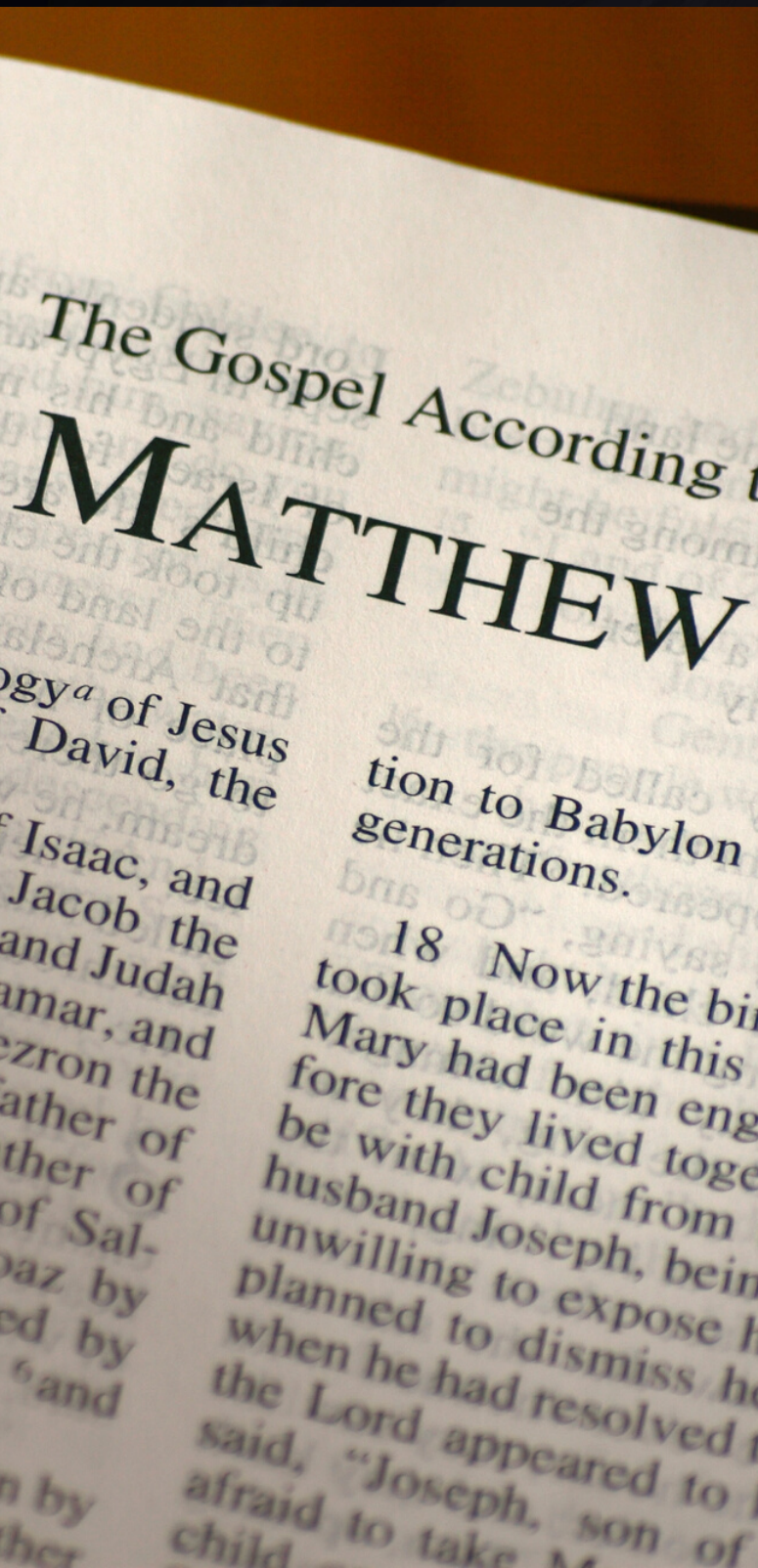
We need volunteers for our Night to Shine event on February 10. Volunteers will be needed to help with a myriad of fun tasks, such as:

- Host/Hostess: Buddy with a guest (most needed)
- Food Crew: 7-8 Graders
- Special Projects: tasks that need to be done ahead of time
- Set Up/Decorate: Feb. 9 flexible timing
- Set Up/Decorate: Feb. 10 before 3PM
- Clean Up Crew: Putting decorations away after the event

Please sign up before February 3, so we have time for background checks. Registrations on Hope's website under Events.

ADULT EDUCATION

CONGREGATIONAL STUDY: “ST. MATTHEW PRESENTS THE CHRIST”



Members and friends of Hope Lutheran Church are invited to participate in a thorough exploration of the early chapters of St. Matthew's Gospel. We will be continuing our study through February 19, Our sermons and adult education classes (Sundays and Wednesdays) will focus on story after story, to help us learn how St. Matthew portrays Jesus as the long-awaited Christ, the Messiah, and the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies. Along the way, we'll gain a renewed sense of who Jesus is in our lives. Home study materials will be available (www.hopelutheranwv.org/adulted) for each week as part of this congregational study program, as well.

Love does
not insist on
its own way

SMALL GROUPS

New Small Group, Hand and Foot

The Hand and Foot group meets once month at Hope Lutheran Church for fellowship and cards. New players are always welcome the 4th Monday of each month 1:00-4:00 PM, in room 301. For more information, contact Peggy Koehler at 919-231-956.

Primetimers Small Group

The PrimeTimers is for any person over the age of 55. The group meets throughout the year for various fellowship events. The first meeting will be February 19. For information please contact Paul Hieter at phieter@nc.rr.com.

Cork Sisters

This is a bi-monthly group that brings women together in fellowship, wine tasting, and devotion and meets the third Thursday (bi-monthly) offsite. The next date is 3/16/23. For information contact Teri O'Neill (terioneill@att.net) or Pam Jay (pjay0826@gmail.com).

Men Not at Work

Men age 55+ who are retired or semi-retired, gather to share a meal, discuss what's on your mind, Bible study, and books of common interest on the first & third Tuesday of each month at the Forks Cafeteria. The next date is 2/21/23. For information contact Andy Barrett (919-349-5599 or andy27609@yahoo.com).



*Love is not irritable or
resentful.*

MEN'S RETREAT

Men 18+ are invited to sign up for
the annual Men's Retreat,
April 14-16,
at Camp Cheerio (Glade Valley NC).
Historically great food, lots of fun
recreational opportunities, time for
spiritual reflection and growth,
opportunities to build Christian
friendships, and more. The Men's
Retreat is open to members and
friends of Hope. Invite a friend or
two, and sign up today
(www.hopelutheranwf.org/men)

Trivia Night

Come celebrate Galantines with the Women's Ministry.
Join us for a night of laughter, friendship and Trivia
at Real McCoy's.

Thursday February 16 from 6:30-9PM

RSVP on the Women's Ministry Page on Hope's website



Questions? Contact

Beth Agner at bagner@hopelutheranwf.org



2023 SPRING WOMEN'S RETREAT @ HOPE

DOES SIMPLY THINKING ABOUT CHOCOLATE BRING A SMILE TO YOUR FACE?
HOW ABOUT SPENDING TIME WITH FRIENDS AND ENJOYING CHOCOLATE TREATS - IT'S A PERFECT
GATHERING!

Café CHOCOLAT IS A RELAXING CHOCOLATE-THEMED WOMEN'S RETREAT. IT INCLUDES
WORSHIP, BIBLE STUDY, AND TIME FOR LAUGHTER AS WELL AS TIME FOR QUIET REFLECTION.
AND WHILE THE NAME OF OUR GATHERING SOUNDS INDULGENT, WE'LL ACTUALLY BE USING
CHOCOLATE AS A METAPHOR FOR GOD'S EXTRAVAGANT GRACE.

MARCH 17-18, 2023 @ HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

COST: \$60 INCLUDES DINNER (3/17) AND LUNCH AND SNACKS ON (3/18)

ALL WOMEN 18 AND OLDER ARE WELCOME

REGISTER ON THE WOMEN'S MINISTRY PAGE ON HOPE'S WEBSITE

QUESTIONS: AMY MINOR AMINOR1020@HOTMAIL.COM





7-8 Grade Youth are heading on an adventure through time and space.

Youth will meet at the Youth Center on February 11 at noon and will head out to explore the Raleigh downtown museums. Youth will then return to the Youth Center at 4PM. Eat lunch before arriving, cost is \$5.

Sign up on the Youth page on Hope's website.



*Love does not rejoice at wrongdoing,
but rejoices with the truth*

6-8 Grade Youth Gathering

You're invited to the 6-8 Grade Southeastern District Youth Gathering (DYG) on March 24-26 in Williamsburg, Virginia! What is the DYG? It's an incredible opportunity for Jr. High Youth to gather in the name of Jesus to worship, pray, play, serve, and learn together with youth from all over the East Coast!

Cost is \$200

Scholarships are available.

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Made with Love Family Cooking Event

It is important to make time for family always but in the month of February we want to share the love and encourage families to come enjoy some homemade love. Made with Love is an event designed for families with children in preschool-grade 2. At this event, families will spend time together preparing a meal to bake at home. Families will leave the event with great memories, a pizza dinner, decorated cookies, placemats for the family, and a self-written dinner prayer. We encourage all families to participate and to invite friends to join in as well.

February 5th from 2:30-4PM. Cost is \$15 per family.
Register on the children's ministry page on the Hope's website.

*Love bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things, endures all things.*



JUNIOR DETECTIVE

3-4 Grades

February 24 from 6-9PM

Cost: \$10

Who did it? Come and join us to find out!
We will have fun with a night of mysteries including games, crafts, dinner, and a mystery movie.
Register on Hope's Children's Ministry page.



STAY CONNECTED @HOPE

Website - www.hopelutheranwf.org

Hope's website has all of the news, events, and sign up links needed to help you stay informed. Can't find something, use the search feature to find it on our website.

Social Media



HopeLutheranWF



Text alerts. Text Class Code to 81010.

- Kid's Ministry Code: hopec411
- 5-6 Grade Youth & Parents Code: hope56
- Confirmation Code: hopeconf22
- 7-8 Parents & Youth Code: hope78
- 9-12 Parents & Youth Code: hope912

Church Office

Have a question and cannot find the answer? Call the church office during business hours at 919-554-8109 or email office@hopelutheranwf.org.