

**June 15, 2026**

# HOPE Ministries, Inc.

**NEWS**



## **A Hug, A Giggle and a Smile**

**By: Barbara Hust**

A hug is always welcome. A giggle is a happy melody. A smile can change a life.

Here is a heartwarming account of the power of a hug. An article called "The Rescuing Hug" detailed the first week of life for a set of twins. Each baby was in their respective incubators and one was not expected to live. A hospital nurse fought against the hospital rules and placed the babies together in one incubator. When they were back together, the healthier of the two threw a tiny arm over her sister in an endearing embrace. The smaller baby's heart rate stabilized and her temperature rose to normal. This little life was changed by her sister's hug.

We must never underestimate how valuable even the smallest gesture, such as a hug, a giggle or a smile can affect someone's day.

I was in J.C. Penney's trying on some clothes. There were three Hispanic ladies in the fitting room next to me (of rather large stature, I might add). I saw them enter the tiny chamber with arms full of outfits to try on. They seemed to be having a wonderful time laughing and commenting on the styles and which one made them look a little thinner. I didn't understand everything they were saying because some of their conversation was in

Spanish, but I definitely understood that they were having a very good time with each other. I couldn't resist speaking to them. I remarked, "I don't know all that you are saying but I know you are having a wonderful time and it makes me smile." They seemed to appreciate my comment and responded that it made their time even more enjoyable to know I was smiling.

A hug, a giggle or a smile doesn't cost anything to give away but the recipient may be changed for a lifetime by such a seemingly simple gift. How often do you take the time to offer a little part of yourself to someone you pass on the street? It only takes a second but there are some people you see every day that you've never taken time to acknowledge in any way. Begin today! Give a hug, a giggle or a smile and make someone's day a little brighter.

*The voice of joy, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the voice of them that shall say, Praise the Lord of hosts: for his mercy endureth for ever. Jeremiah 33:11a*





**Did you know this  
about  
D.L. Moody,  
famous Christian  
evangelist of the later  
1800's**

**The Converted Shoe Salesman**

Before becoming a world-renowned evangelist, D.L. Moody worked as a boot and shoe salesman in Boston. In 1855, his Sunday school teacher, Edward Kimball, visited Moody in the back of his uncle's shoe store. While Moody was wrapping shoes, Kimball gently shared the gospel with him. Right there in the stockroom, Moody gave his life to Christ. This unassuming encounter sparked a massive legacy of faith.

~MoodyBible.org...

**The Secret Shoe Shiner**

Decades later, Moody hosted a Bible conference in Northfield, Massachusetts, attracting prominent European pastors. Following European custom, the guests left their shoes outside their rooms to be cleaned by hall servants. Because this was America, there were no servants. Not wanting to embarrass the guests or make them feel out of place, Moody asked some theological students for help, but they made excuses.

Moody took matters into his own hands. He gathered the shoes and, alone in his room, spent the night secretly cleaning and polishing them. When the foreign visitors opened their doors the next morning, they found their shoes perfectly shined. The secret was only revealed when a friend unexpectedly walked in on him in the middle of his work. This act of humble service became an iconic testament to his character.

~AllWorship.com...

**HOPE HOUSE ORPHANAGE**

We have a report regarding the shoes for the kids at the orphanage. The response from our last newsletter requesting anyone who wanted to make a donation for the shoes was received and we have gotten a considerable number of donations.

Currently, Pastor Sam Sikapizye is in Zambia and will be taking the children to buy the shoes. They are also going to spend a little time having a pizza party after they get their new shoes. Hopefully by the next newsletter we will have a photograph of some of the kids wearing their new shoes.

Thank you so much to each one who made a donation. We appreciate it very much and the children are very excited to have these new shoes.



“A good many are kept out of the service of Christ...because they are trying to do some great thing. Let us be willing to do little things. And let us remember that nothing is small in which God is the source.”

~D.L. Moody



**WE** need your continued prayer and financial support to accomplish the task the Lord has given us to reach out to those who are struggling and need a safe place to turn for help. Prayerfully consider becoming a **PARTNER OF HOPE** by making a one-time gift or monthly commitment.

**GOD BLESS YOU AS YOU GIVE .**

**Remember** — your gifts to HOPE Ministries are always tax deductible!

### Detoured By Criticism

If we are overly sensitive to criticism, our spiritual growth will be slowed and our service for the Lord Jesus will be limited. We must not let ourselves be controlled by our critics.

Have you heard about the father and his son who took a donkey to the market? The man sat on the beast and the boy walked. People along the way said, "What a terrible thing, a big strong fellow sitting on the donkey's back while the youngster has to walk." So, the father dismounted and the son took his place. Soon onlookers remarked, "How terrible, this man walking and the little boy sitting." At that, they both got on the donkey's back—only to hear others say, "How cruel, two people sitting on one donkey!" They never did make it to the market.

Do you see yourself in this humorous story? Are there times when you become immobilized by the opinions and comments of others? Sensitive to everything they say, you are always unsettled. Of course, we must heed the helpful suggestions of concerned fellow believers. But to get all "shook up" by people who take delight in criticizing will divert us from our goal. We must have the same determination as the apostle Paul, who lived not for man's approval, but to please the Savior. He said, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3:14). That's the only way to keep from being detoured by criticism.

-P.R.V.

I've asked the Lord to take from me  
The supersensitivity  
That robs the soul of joy and peace  
And causes fellowship to cease.

-Graves

**To avoid all criticism, you must say nothing, do nothing, be nothing.**

### Memorize Scripture

And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

Romans 4:21

### Lizzy Says:

**The weather is nice. Let's spend time outside!**



### Hummingbird Feeder Recipe

It's easy to make your own sugar water to fill your backyard feeder.

-Mix 1 part sugar and 4 parts water in a saucepan over medium heat. Once sugar dissolves completely, remove from heat and allow to cool. Add to hummingbird feeder.

Hummingbirds have remarkable spatial memories and flutter in the area of feeders before they are even hung in the spring.

### Hummingbird Flowers

Hummers will zoom towards any nectar-rich flowers. They have a heightened sensitivity to brightly-hued red and yellow flowers, but they are also speedy learners and will find nectar wherever they can.

The hummingbird is a prolific pollinator of flowers. Research shows that ruby-throated hummingbirds deposit 10 times as much pollen as bumblebees. So, to attract hummingbirds to your garden, make sure to include lots of plants known to attract them.

What are a hummingbird's favorite flowers? Try bee balm and foxglove, just to name two.

**How Beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace. ~Romans 10:15**



Some problems require creative solutions. Use your God-given imagination and let the ideas flow.

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*And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying.*

*Mark 2:4*

*~ From "God's Best For Your Success"*

## Who We Are:



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We are here at **HOPE Ministries, Inc.** because we believe there is always **HOPE** for every situation, no matter how grave. If you have a need that you would like us to lift in prayer, please call us anytime.



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