

# The Hope Reporter

## 7-Week Sermon Series Beginning in August Perspectives on the Cross

It's always good to review things. At work, you may have to review how to do something you haven't done in a long time. At school, we all had to review and memorize countless subject so we could get a passing grade. Even in sports, reviewing how to throw a pitch, swing a club, shoot a ball helps with muscle memory and consistency. The same is true when it comes to our faith. It's always a good thing to periodically review what it is that we believe, teach, and confess, especially when we live in a day and age when our cultural norms are shifting, it seems, by the hour.

So that we have a clear understanding on how to approach the world around us from a solid Christian foundation, we are going to take some time beginning August 2<sup>nd</sup> to review the Six Chief Parts of Christian Doctrine as they are lined out for us in Luther's Small Catechism. Each week, we are going to tackle one of them starting with The Ten Commandments, moving on to the Apostles' Creed, then to the Lord's Prayer. From there we'll look at Baptism, Confession, the Lord's Supper, and we'll finish our the series by looking at how all those things together help us as we live out our Christian faith every day.

As we walk through each of those Six Chief Parts each week, we're going to take a unique approach to them by looking at how the cross of Jesus changes our perspective on each of them and frees us up to live as our good and gracious God wants us to live. By looking at the multifaceted aspects of the cross, we're going to use comparisons to our bones, eyes, and words, to wind, to a unique way Christians are blessed and to fire. Through each of these comparisons, we are going to find the unique ways that we bear our crosses in our lives every day and by doing that, participate in the redemptive work of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as we see life and everything we do through the lens of the cross of Jesus and the empty tomb.

Here is what you can expect each week:

August 2 – Cross Bones: The Ten Commandments – Matthew 5:17-20

August 9 – Cross Eyes: The Apostles' Creed – 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

August 16 – Cross Words: The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:5-15

August 23 – Cross Wind: Holy Baptism – John 3:1-17

August 30 – Cross Way: Confession – 1 John 1:5-10

September 6 – Cross Fire: Holy Communion – 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

September 13 – Cross Bearers: Faith and Works – Ephesians 2:1-10, James 2:14-26

Many of us remember reviewing these important aspects of our faith in Confirmation class, but we haven't taken the time to review them in a long time, so take some time to join us August 6<sup>th</sup> – September 3<sup>rd</sup> as we get some new perspectives on the cross in light of those important parts of the faith we share!

Your Brother in Christ,  
Pastor James



## Hope Reporter

### Happy Birthday to...



Ernie Diebel 4  
Nancy Wapshott 12  
Lydia Mavrogeorge 15  
Lois Diebel 17  
Judie Paul 19  
Sawyer Molina 20  
Steve Baryschpolec 20

Jim Ridenour 21  
Forrest Moser 22  
Devon Lang 23  
William Pettis 27  
Leslie Heumann 28  
Steve Tabor 29

### Happy Anniversary to...

|                        |    |          |
|------------------------|----|----------|
| Scott & Tori Cooper    | 4  | 11 Years |
| Pat & Karen Landy      | 12 | 37 Years |
| Ernie & Lois Diebel    | 15 | 45 Years |
| Wyatt & Julia Anderson | 22 | 6 Years  |
| Del & Sylvia Lonquist  | 29 | 9 Years  |



### Weekly Bible Studies



- **Sunday Adult Bible Study** meets in the Sanctuary between services each Sunday.
- **Children's Sunday School Classes** will resume on Sept. 13, Rally Day!
- **Wednesday Women's & Men's Bible Studies and Wednesday in the Word** will resume on Sept. 16. Watch for more information.



### Mah Jongg Game Day – August 29<sup>th</sup>

Join us on **August 29<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 3pm** for an unforgettable day of strategy, friendship, and relaxation! Immerse yourself in the world of Mah Jongg with fellow enthusiasts. Whether you are a seasoned veteran or just getting started, you are welcome to join us! The cost is \$25 to enter and you'll get lunch, desserts, and PRIZES! We'll have a 50/50 raffle and gift basket raffles, too! Contact Joline Irvine at 786-393-8241 to reserve your spot today! All proceeds will go toward Hope's Sabbatical fund!

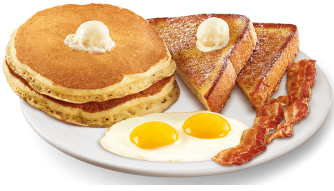
### Hope Dines Out at Ciao Italian Grill



Hope members and friends are invited to share a time of food and fellowship at **Ciao Italian Grill** on **Wednesday, August 19 at 6:00 p.m.** Ciao is located at 1400 N. Harbor City, Melbourne, 32935; the website is [ciao grill.com](http://ciao grill.com) if you are interested in checking the menu. If you have questions, please contact Leslie Heumann (321-507-0587). Please consider joining your Hope friends for an evening of fun and fellowship!



# August 2026



## Women's & Men's Bible Breakfast

Our Women's and Men's Bible Breakfast groups will meet next on August 15 at 9 a.m. at Grills, 6075 North US 1, Melbourne, FL. This is a chance for a light devotion together and some good fellowship. All are invited! Sign up in the Narthex. Women may contact Cathy Chase at 321-505-1223 with questions. Men may contact Gary Rezeau at (321) 543-4887.

## Mah Jongg with Kathy Mathisen



Our Mah Jongg group meets Tuesdays, 1-3 pm in the church Fellowship Hall. If interested, please let Kathy Mathisen know at 321-345-4770.



## Crochet Crew

Crochet Crew will be meeting on August 13 & 27, 2026. We begin at 10 am and finish around 11:30 am. If you want to learn or just do your own thing with the group, please join. Any questions, please contact Rachel Stutsman at 701-471-4751.

## Hope Walks



All are welcome to walk with us at Wickham Park on Mondays, Wednesday and Saturdays at 6:45 am. Assemble just inside the main Parkway entrance. Contact Cathy Chase (321-505-1223) for text updates.



## Hurricane Emergency Action Response Team

For those who have volunteered with our new program, HEART (Hurricane Emergency Action Response Team), there will be a meeting on August 12 at 7 pm to get things rolling. If you have not signed up yet, but are interested in join this team, please join us at this meeting or contact Bill Pettis at 321-427-1428. The main function of HEART will be to create a team of people who will be trained and willing to help our members and other community members after a hurricane, specifically in clearing entrances and driveways.

## VBS at New Life Mission



**New Life Mission**  
Transforming Homeless Families

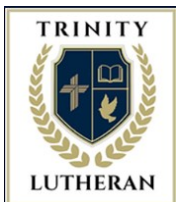
On August 3, Hope Outreach will be hosting a one-day Vacation Bible School at New Life Mission to help their kids Explore the Nature of God. We will use the themes "God is Our Safe Place" and "God is Love." Please pray for our teachers and that the children's hearts are open to the truth of God's great love and care for them!!

## Hope Reporter

### Teacher Appreciation Breakfasts



There are still a few ways to help in providing back to school breakfasts for the staffs at Trinity Lutheran School and Sherwood Elementary School. For Trinity, the breakfast will be on Wednesday, August 5, and for Sherwood, on Thursday, August 6. We can use help in both providing food and serving at the schools. Please check the sign up sheets in the narthex to see how you might be able to help, and a big thank you to those who have already signed up. If you are bringing a casserole, it may be already baked or can be left with baking instructions in the church frig. All food items for Trinity need to be brought to church by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, August 4 and labeled for Trinity; items for Sherwood need to be at church by 2 p.m. on Wednesday, August 5 and labeled for Sherwood. If you have questions, please contact Leslie Heumann (321-507-0587) or Nancy Roberts (804-513-5375). This is a wonderful opportunity to be Hope in our community!



### Trinity Lutheran School Work Day

Don't forget the work day at Trinity Lutheran School on Sat., Aug. 1st from 8-11 a.m. in preparation for the opening of school. Everyone is invited to help.

### Sherwood Elementary Supply Drive



Our school supply drive was a huge success! We had 14 backpacks filled with items for each grade level and gender K-6<sup>th</sup>. There were also 23 teacher wish lists completed. Wow! As requested, next year we will increase the number of backpacks to fill as our first service members snagged all the backpack lists before second service even had a chance. I want to send out a special THANK YOU to Joline Irvine and Jackson Sifflemire for helping sort and back the backpacks and teacher wish list items. Items will be dropped off at Sherwood the first week of August to coincide with the teach back to school breakfast.



August 2026



Redeeming Life  
Outreach Ministries Inc.



## August Ministry of the Month

Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries RLOM - Women who come to RLOM need so much as they face their crisis pregnancy and prepare for independent living. Each resident finds a secure home, personalized help, and true hope for the future as they prepare for the birth of their baby. With rising costs for food, utilities, and programming, ministry costs more now than ever in our twelve-year history. **Will you help today?** Your generous gift supports moms and babies! You can make the difference for women who need help. Your support funds everything from housing to help with employment and education, transportation to training. A gift of \$50 funds a monthly bus pass for a resident. \$75 pays for two weeks of newborn diapers. \$250 provides nutritious food for a week in our maternity home. \$1000 helps fund the personalized programming each woman participates in to gain skills and knowledge for independent living.

## Hope for the Homeless—Providence Connects



Thank you all for the donations to Providence Connects this summer. Sunscreen (June) and men's white T-shirts (July) were purchased using Thrivent cards. There were 150 shampoo/conditioners and 4 miscellaneous hygiene items donated by Hope members for June. In July 20 hats, 8 packs of socks and 1 XL bag of clothing was donated. As always thank you for continuing to keep Providence Connects on your hearts.



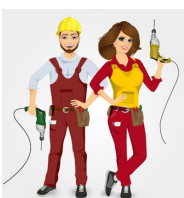
## Bakers' Blessings

Baker's Blessings will be taking a break for the month of August. Look for a new sign-up sheet for the month of September.

## Food on the First-BLAST



Food on the First-For August food donations will be accepted through August 9th. To kick start the school year, most items will be needed. Peanut butter, jelly, pasta, pasta sauce, canned vegetables, individually packaged snack items, Granola bars, and macaroni and donations are useful and appreciated. When possible, plastic or cans are preferred over glass. Should you have any questions, please contact Nancy Sutter. Thank you for your ongoing support.



## Hope Helpers

Last year Tori Cooper compiled a Hope Helpers list of Hope members willing and wanting to help our church community with household tasks such as yardwork, dishes, laundry, grocery shopping, basic electrical and plumbing, minor household repairs and much much more! You may pick up the list of Hope Helpers in the church office to have on hand if ever a need should arise. And remember, we are a church family so no one should hesitate asking for assistance. We are all so willing to help where we can!

August 2026



## Support Hope through Online Giving

Your generosity goes a long way in helping Hope fulfill God's mission in Melbourne and beyond! We thank you for supporting our ministry! You can give at [hopebrevard.org/give](https://hopebrevard.org/give) or by scanning the QR code to the left.

## Hope Lutheran Church

4541 N Wickham Road Phone: 321.622.6126  
 Melbourne FL 32935 Email: [pastor@hopebrevard.org](mailto:pastor@hopebrevard.org)  
 Facebook: [@hopebrevard](https://www.facebook.com/hopebrevard)



## Striving to be people of HOPE in our Community.

### Carrying the HOPE of Jesus to our community by growing together through worship, education, service and fellowship.



Worship

Worship is very important to us here at Hope. It's a time where we can gather together as followers of Jesus and come into contact with our God, who loves us and forgives us. When we come together in worship, we pray, praise and give thanks to God for His grace delivered to us through His Word and Sacraments.



Education

In order to be people of Hope in our community, we believe it is vital for each of us to grow in our understanding of the God who loves and and forgives us through Jesus. This is why Hope provides a variety of educational opportunities as you continue to explore the faith we share. Go to [www.hopebrevard.org](https://www.hopebrevard.org) to get plugged in!



Service

Serving our community has been a part of Hope's mission since we were planted as a church in 2005. This legacy continues still today as the first 11% of our budget every year is dedicated to our outreach ministry. Through this ministry of service, Hope provides many opportunities for our members to reach into our community with the Hope of Jesus.



Fellowship

We all appreciate when we have a friend or two to walk alongside us as we experience the joys and sorrows that we encounter along life's way. Through our times of fellowship at Hope, we deepen the relationships we have with one another and learn how we might best bear one another's burdens.