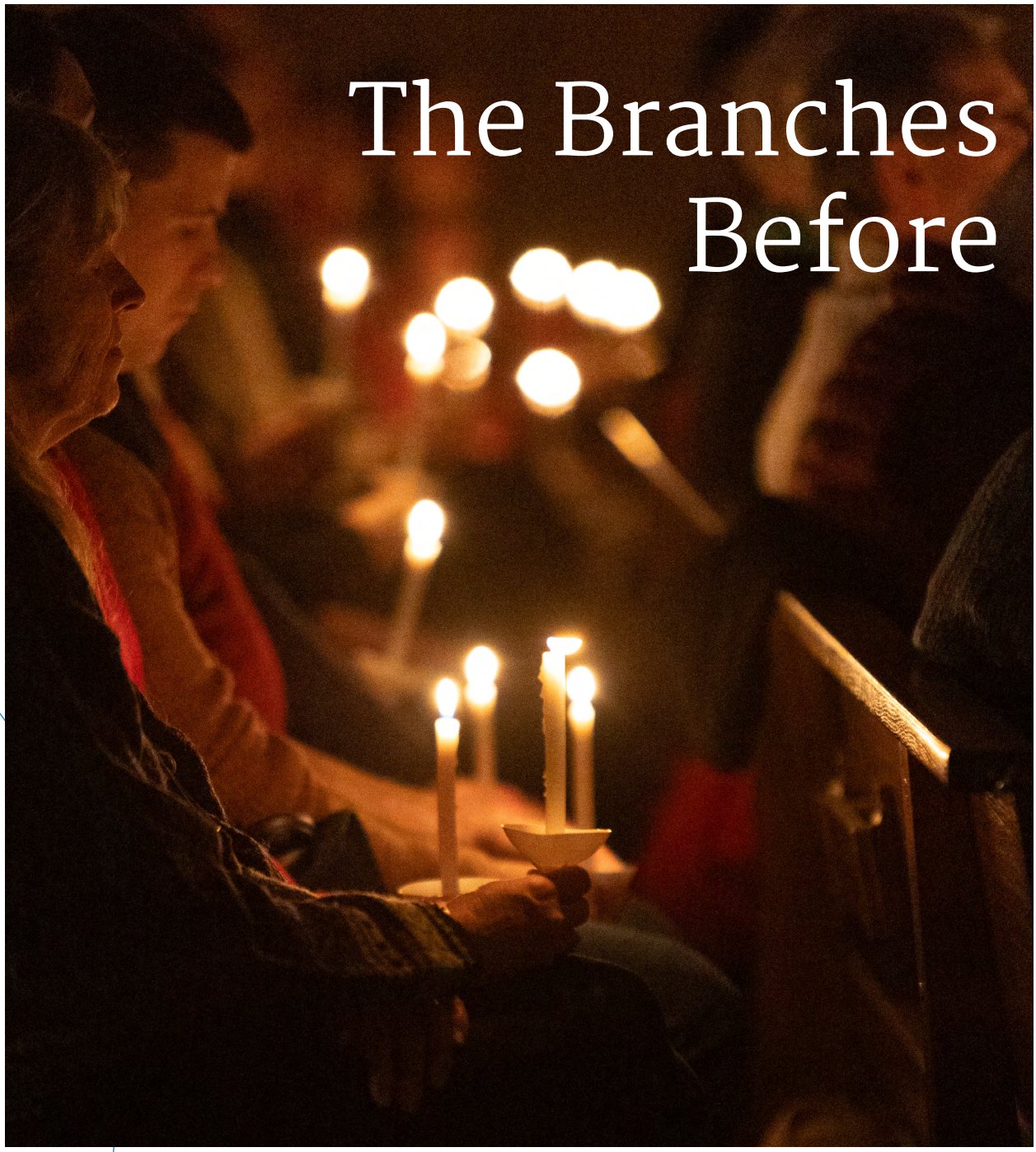
THE WINTER ISSUE | 2027

THE

CROSSINGS



The Branches Before

A PUBLICATION OF HOPE CHURCH

The Branches Before

by Melissa Schaser, Lead Pastor



Dear Hope Church,

Recently, my family had two new trees planted in our yard. There is something hopeful about planting a tree. We prepared the ground, settled its roots into the soil, and began to imagine what it might become. The trees are small now, but over time they will grow stronger, extend their branches, offer shade, and become part of the landscape around our home. So much possibility is held in those first days of being planted.

As I look at those trees, I find myself reflecting on my own experience of being newly planted at Hope Church. I have been on staff for a few months now, and I am deeply grateful for the warmth, generosity, and hospitality you have shown my family and me. Thank you for the conversations, invitations for coffee, prayers, and countless ways you have welcomed us. I have especially enjoyed getting to know more of you and hearing the stories that have shaped your lives and our congregation. I am beginning to put down roots here, and I am excited about what God will grow among us in the years ahead.

This fall, we have been exploring what it means to Branch Deeper with Jesus through our sermon series, *The Branches Before*. As we trace the family tree of Jesus in Matthew 1, we encounter people with complicated stories, surprising twists, failures, and remarkable faithfulness. Their lives remind us that God has always worked through imperfect people to accomplish his purposes. Our stories, too, are connected to something much larger than ourselves: God's unfolding story of redemption.

I have loved watching you engage with these stories and consider what they mean for your own lives. Just as trees need deep roots to grow strong branches, we need to be rooted in Jesus if we are going to flourish in the life God has for us.

As we move toward Advent, we will continue *The Branches Before*, turning our attention to Jesus' immediate family and the circumstances surrounding his birth. We will see how God's promises, carried through generations, come to fulfillment in Jesus. Even when the future looks uncertain, God is at work bringing new life in ways we might not expect.

In January we will begin a new series in John 15, where Jesus declares, "I am the vine; you are the branches." Having spent the fall branching deeper with Jesus, we will turn our attention to branching wider in God's kingdom. What does it look like for our lives to bear fruit? How might God send us beyond ourselves to share the love and good news of Jesus with our neighbors and our community?

A newly planted tree holds much possibility. We can tend the soil, nourish the roots, and cultivate a healthy environment, but only God creates the growth. The same is true of us as individuals and as a church. As I settle into life and ministry at Hope, I am grateful to be growing alongside you. I look forward to discovering what God will cultivate in us and through us as we continue to put down roots in Christ and extend our branches into the world.

With gratitude and hope,

Pastor Melissa

(Opposite) The Next Gen Ministries team includes Greta Schutte (Hope Shores Camp Director), Betsy Waltz (Preschool Teacher), Julie Lewis (Associate Minister to Children + Families), Nancy Olson (Director of Preschool + Kidventure), Michaela Pankratz (Director of Children, Youth + Families), Katie McGowan (Preschool Teacher), and Heidi Connors (Executive Director of Next Gen Ministries).



God Answers Prayer

by Heidi Connors, Executive Director of Next Gen Ministries and Nancy Olson, Director of Preschool + Kidventure

This summer, Hope leadership began asking God: Who is the next leader to continue God's significant "branching out" ministry through Hope's Preschool + Kidventure programs? We were overjoyed to discover that the Holy Spirit had been preparing and nudging Nancy Olson to be the answer to that prayer and serve as the new director. She had been an aide, a teacher, and an administrative assistant in these programs for years before going to work at Richfield Dual Language School as a substitute teacher. Her connections in the community are deep and full of love for children and their families. We are grateful to add her to the Next Gen Team and support her vision for more crossover between Hope Church and the community. Notice in her story below her branching-out heart for helping all kids know God's love and listening ear through prayer:

"It is so good to be back at Hope Church! I get a chance not only to connect with children and their families, but I also get to talk to them about the Jesus who made them and loves them so much! Some of our families already know and follow Jesus, while others have not had faith as a part of their family's lives. It's an amazing privilege to introduce people to the God of the universe!

You may have noticed something new right outside the Preschool + Kidventure office: it's a prayer box. I introduced it to the children in our program through examples of answered prayers that my family has experienced. I told them that they may have needed help at some time in their lives, and the person they asked for help may have told them to "wait a minute," "not right now, I'm busy," "I don't have time," or "you'll have to tell me later." That's the thing with humans: we can't do everything; we aren't perfect. The wonderful thing about our God is that he is always able to listen. He wants to hear from us! So far, we have had eight requests and one answer to prayer! We're so thrilled they are trusting God with their needs, fears, and even wants! Our God is so good!"

Join us on Thursday, December 10, 10:00 am, in the sanctuary for the Hope Preschool Christmas Program. If you are interested in a tour of our classrooms and programs or want to support what God's doing in this ministry, please contact Nancy at nancy@hope-pc.org.

> The wonderful thing about our God is that he is always able to listen. He wants to hear from us!

Jesus the Branch

by Nick Schaser



The title of our fall and Advent worship series, *The Branches Before: Jesus' Family Tree*, recalls one of Scripture's names for the awaited Messiah: the Branch.

Speaking of a future descendant of David, Isaiah declares, "There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a **branch** from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord" (Isa 11:1–2 ESV).

In the original Hebrew of Isaiah, the word for "branch" is *netzer*. The arboreal metaphor is apt, since the prophet goes on to describe the influence of this Davidic figure **branching out** on the earth: "With righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth" (Isa 11:4). This verse emphasizes that God's anointed one will dwell and minister in a specific geographical area to people in need of wisdom and support.

The Gospel of Matthew returns to Isaiah's imagery of the branch. After Jesus and his parents return from Egypt, Matthew writes, "And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene" (Matt 2:23 ESV). While there is no explicit statement in the Old Testament that the Messiah "would be called a Nazarene," Matthew has something more subtle in mind. In the Greek of the New Testament, "Nazareth" is *Nazaret*, and "Nazarene" is *Nazoraios*. The first two syllables of these words consist of *nazar*, which sounds very much like *netzer*—Isaiah's Hebrew word for "branch." When Matthew calls Christ a Nazarene, the wordplay with *netzer* suggests that he is the Branch of Isaiah's prophecy. Not only that, but Jesus' residence in Nazareth implies that he lives in "Branchland"—even his hometown affirms his fulfillment of Isaiah!

Throughout this worship series, let us marvel at the ways in which our Messiah enacts prophetic promises. In light of God's faithfulness, may we branch out in love toward others in our church and our community.





From Convenience to Calling: Finding Our Church Home at Hope

by Chelsea Korth, Covenant Partner

My husband and I bought our home in Richfield in May of 2021, within blocks of Hope Church. At the time, we'd been attending church remotely, streaming services online, a hangover habit from the pandemic. That church was lovely, but over thirty minutes from our new home, and neither of us were morning people (how becoming parents has now redefined what an early morning truly is!).

So, we found ourselves walking to Hope Church one Sunday. The service was held in a transitional space while the Portland Worship Center was under construction. We appreciated ample examples of Hope's ministries outside its own walls, and an authentic connection between leaders of the church and its congregants.

We kept attending Hope, slowly forging relationships from smiles and small exchanges each week. Everything changed in 2023 when we welcomed our daughter into the world and looked at our values in action.

As our daughter has grown, so has our family's involvement in Hope Church. What started by joining the Young Families group (a truly wonderful come-as-you-are group of parents with young children), turned into volunteering in nursery on Sundays, becoming Hope Church members, volunteering with Vine and Branches, sending our daughter to Hope Preschool, and, as I write this, preparing for a time of blessing for our daughter surrounded by family and the abundance of God's love.

We initially came to Hope Church out of convenience, but what we've found is a much deeper blessing: a church truly embedded in the community where we live. Here, we see our actual neighbors cared for in tangible ways: they are fed, clothed, taught, employed, encouraged, and even entertained (!) through the life of this church.

I recently learned about Saint Augustine through one of my favorite authors and thinkers, Kate Bowler. One of Augustine's teachings says, "Since you cannot do good to all, pay special attention to those who, by the accidents of time, place, or circumstance, are brought into closer connection with you." As we prepare to have our daughter blessed, we've chosen 1 Peter 4:10 as a blessing for her, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." This holiday season, may this verse encourage you to start small, and discover your own calling both within and beyond Hope's walls.

Deacon Ministry

Let's Find Out About the Deacon Community

by Scott Lindquist, Deacon Moderator

What is the Deacon Community? The Deacon Community is a term for the people who the Deacon Board serves.

So who is on this Deacon List? That's easy, the list is made up of all members of Hope Church who are age 75 or older (occasionally someone under 75 with extra needs or a severe health diagnosis is also assigned a deacon).

How big is this list? It is well over 200 people. The Deacon Board divides that number equally among the dozen or so Deacons. Each Deacon representative will have about 15 contacts on their list. For continuity they will have mostly the same people on their list for three years.

How do I sign up? No need to sign up, Hope Church automatically enters you on the list!

What do I get as a member of the Deacon Community? You get an amazing deacon who will contact you periodically throughout the year. They may call you, meet you at church, send a few cards a year (at major holidays), visit you at home if you wish, if you need to have home communion, they will be happy to do so.

Is that all? No, you get a friend to talk to, a great listener, someone who you can tell your troubles or blessings to, someone to pray for you, to pray with you, to pray for your family, your friends, at times pray for your aches, pains and worse, maybe sometimes come to visit at the hospital, be there to help make important decisions. Maybe they will bring you breakfast in bed (don't count on it!).

Are there any other benefits? Glad you asked, how about a free meal! Every May the Deacon Board goes all out and puts a banquet on. It is called the Friendship Luncheon. We try to get everyone in the Deacon Community to come, and most do. Two hundred Spirit-filled people in the PWC is an incredible event. The lunch is followed by a special worship service with communion—all in all a great day of meeting together with your Deacon Community friends.

The deacons seem very busy with us, is that all they do? While our emphasis is on the Deacon Community, The deacons have many other irons in the fire. Here are a few: the Helping Hands ministry help with all sorts of home issues as much as possible, GriefShare ministry for those who have personal losses, assisting with memorial services, the Gathering, helping with setting up for special programs and dinners. Deacons have traditionally/biblically been the aides to the clergy to make the way smooth for ministry, so anything goes.

Who is my deacon? At the moment it would be one of these wonderful people; Becky Arnold, Jan Holt, Sheri Johnston, Deb Massie, Jerry Nygaard, Susie Prin, Dr. Buzzy Anderson, Bob Pulford, Rob Rumppe, Lisa Huberty. If you don't recognize your deacon, there is of course turnover in the makeup of the Deacon Board. When you receive a card from your deacon, save it to remember who it is. Always feel free to call them if you have an important prayer request or need to know information about something going on at Hope Church.

Officers of the Church

Seeking Nominees for Elders and Deacons

In January, the Nominating Committee will begin identifying Covenant Partners to be considered for the next class of both Elders and Deacons.

Please prayerfully consider recommending individuals you believe possess the gifts and heart to serve our congregation in these elected offices.

How to Submit Your Suggestions:

Paper: Drop a card (found in the pews or at the Connect Desk) with your name suggestions into any Giving Kiosk.

Email: Send your recommendations directly to Megan Larson at melarson12@gmail.com.

Thank you for your active and prayerful participation in shaping the leadership of our church community.

Stewardship + Hope Fund Committee

My Stewardship Journey

by Kevin Dybdal, Stewardship + Hope Fund Committee

I would like to take this opportunity to share my experiences in stewardship over the years.

My wife Wendy and I have been part of the Hope family for over 40 years. We joined when we were newly engaged and searching for a church home. Over the years, our journey at Hope has been deeply shaped by God's blessings—and by the practice of stewardship.

My parents taught me about giving back to God at an early age. Even as a child, my parents made sure we had something to contribute to the weekly offering. The offering started small, as I didn't have much. But it was a regular part of my spiritual discipline.

Later, as I began working, I continued to grow my commitment, gradually increasing my offering as I worked toward tithing—first from what was left after expenses, then eventually moving toward giving from my full income.

In those days it was always cash or a check to drop into the offering plate. But I'll admit: remembering to bring the offering was an occasional challenge. It was sometimes hard to be consistent.

In 2020, COVID changed everything—including how we worship and give. That's when I finally set up recurring online gifts. And to my surprise, in addition to consistency it also brought peace. I no longer worried about missing a Sunday. Giving became a steady habit, and I found myself a more cheerful giver.

As a member of Session and the Stewardship and Hope Fund Committee, I am continually grateful for the generosity and faithfulness of our Hope Church family. Through your faithful giving, God has continued to bless our church in remarkable ways. Beyond regular giving, your generosity has also helped reduce our mortgage debt from $4 million in May 2023 to $361,690.59 as of November 16, 2026. This is a wonderful testament to what we can accomplish together through faith, generosity, and God's grace.

God has truly blessed our family through this journey—and I trust he will bless yours too.

Give Online

Sign Up for the Weekly Email

Staff Update

Welcome to Hope Church's New Staff!



Miriam Turnbull
Camp Ministry Assistant



Dave Campbell
Pastoral Ministry Associate



Community Christmas Celebration

December 5 | 9:30 am–Noon | Hope Church

Bring the whole family to enjoy games, crafts, treats, and a short presentation of the Christmas story!







CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

Christmas Carol Sing-Along

December 13 | 4:00 pm | Sanctuary

Enjoy singing long-loved (and maybe some lesser-known) Christmas carols together. This hymn-sing will be accompanied by Jeanette Anderson on the organ.

Festival Worship

December 20 | 9:00 + 10:30 am | Sanctuary

The Festival Choir and brass quintet will lead the congregation in worship as they present Aaron David Miller's "Prophets and Angels."

Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship

December 24 | 1:00 + 9:00 pm | Sanctuary

Experience the Christmas Gospel from creation to new creation through dramatic Scripture presentations, beloved carols, and candle lighting. We celebrate Jesus, our light in the darkness!

Family-Friendly Christmas Eve Worship

December 24 | 3:00 + 4:30 pm | Sanctuary

We worship the newborn Savior with music, drama, and the message of hope and joy that Christmas brings.

One Service Crossover Worship

December 27 | 10:30 am | Sanctuary

We will celebrate the gift of Jesus' birth in one worship service.



SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES

MLK Day Worship

January 17 | 6:00 pm | Grace Apostolic Church, Brooklyn Park

Hope Church is partnering with Transform Minnesota in this special worship gathering. Join believers from across the Twin Cities for a multi-racial worship celebration on MLK weekend.

Ash Wednesday Worship

February 10 | Noon and 6:30 pm

We observe the beginning of the season of Lent by marking ourselves with ashes and gathering for worship as we begin our journey with Jesus to the cross.

SUNDAYS

Traditional Worship
9:00 am | Sanctuary

Crossover Fellowship
10:00 am | Commons

Lao Worship
10:30 am | Community Events Room

Contemporary Worship
10:30 am | Sanctuary

Oasis
10:30 am | Chapel
An open learning community that enjoys a variety of speakers. lauren@hope-pc.org

Young Adults Bible Study
12:30 pm | Youth Room
Join other young adults for a time of fellowship as we study God's Word together. lauren@hope-pc.org

WEDNESDAYS

Lenten Meals
5:30 pm | Portland Worship Center
Feb 17–Mar 17
All are welcome to join us for dinner before Wednesday night programs during Lent.

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
6:30 pm | Chapel
Whether you are a seasoned singer or interested in getting involved, sanctuary choir is the place for you! The choir rehearses on Wednesday nights and leads in worship on Sunday mornings at the 9:00 service. chloe@hope-pc.org

GROUPS

Monday Morning Prayer
Mondays | 10:00 am | Chapel
Gather with others for a time of prayer as we seek God's presence. Ask God to lead and strengthen his kingdom work among us as we pray for our church, ministries, mission partners, and community. Whether you're new to prayer or have prayed for years, you're warmly invited to join us.

Caring Card Ministry
2nd and 4th Tuesdays | 9:30 am–12:00 pm | Chapel
Grow closer in community while serving our congregation. Create cards for the use of the staff and deacons. Drop in for an hour or stay the whole time. Contact Kris McWilliams at k.mcwill51@gmail.com.

The Gathering
2nd Thursdays | 11:45 am | 12:00 pm meal | 1:00 pm program | Community Events Room
Enjoy a great meal and an informative and entertaining program.

- Dec 10 | Catered meal and Christmas concert by the Grace Notes women's trio
- No program in January.
- Feb 4 | Catered meal and music with accomplished harpist Cathy Victorsen

Register in the Commons the two Sundays before each event or contact Dan and Kory Everson at 612-866-7606. It will be great to see you there!

Prayer Shawl Ministry
3rd Thursdays | 1:00–3:00 pm | Commons Fireplace
Enjoy prayer, devotions, fellowship, and treats. If you are a knitter or crocheter (or would like to learn), we would love to have you join us. Contact Cheryl Hauer at 612-861-5853.

Lay Leadership Development Formation Groups
Weeks of Jan 24–Mar 14 | Various times + locations
Are you looking to grow in your discipleship and leadership? Join a Formation Group this winter studying *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality* by Peter Scazzero. Contact Pastor KC at kc@hope-pc.org.

Spring Formation Groups Meal and Promo Night
Mar 17 | 5:30 pm Dinner | 6:30 pm Presentation
Weeks of Apr 4–May 9 | Various times + locations
Come to the Lenten meal on March 17 and stay for a presentation of the spring Formation Group offerings. These groups will start after Easter and run for six weeks April 4 to May 9.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Men's Bible Studies

Saturdays | 8:00 am | Zoom
Mondays | 8:00 pm | Zoom

Both meetings: zoom.us/j/93078610437

Rich fellowship, prayer, and discussion on the Scripture for Sunday worship.

Men's Breakfast

Jan 9 | 8:30–10:00 am

Enjoy a faith-building program, fellowship around the table, and breakfast prepared by Stacey Gibbs. This gathering is a great way to introduce friends to our Hope community. RSVP to Dan Ritchie at dritchiemn@gmail.com. Please indicate if you'd like to help with setup or cleanup.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Light the Way: Women's Advent Gathering

Dec 1 | 6:30–8:30 pm | Portland Worship Center

As Advent begins, join us for an evening to pause, create, and connect. Paint a Christmas candle while enjoying sweet and savory treats. $5 suggested donation. Sign up at hope-pc.org. Contact dbell5124@gmail.com.

Thursday Women's Study

Thursdays | Jan 14–Feb 25 | 9:30–11:30 am | Chapel

Join us as we study Jesus' I AM declarations in John's Gospel. Led by Linda Heaner. Please contact Susie Prin at suzala45@gmail.com to sign up.

Women's Winter Warm-Up + Puzzlepalooza

Jan 21 | 6:00–8:00 pm | Portland Worship Center

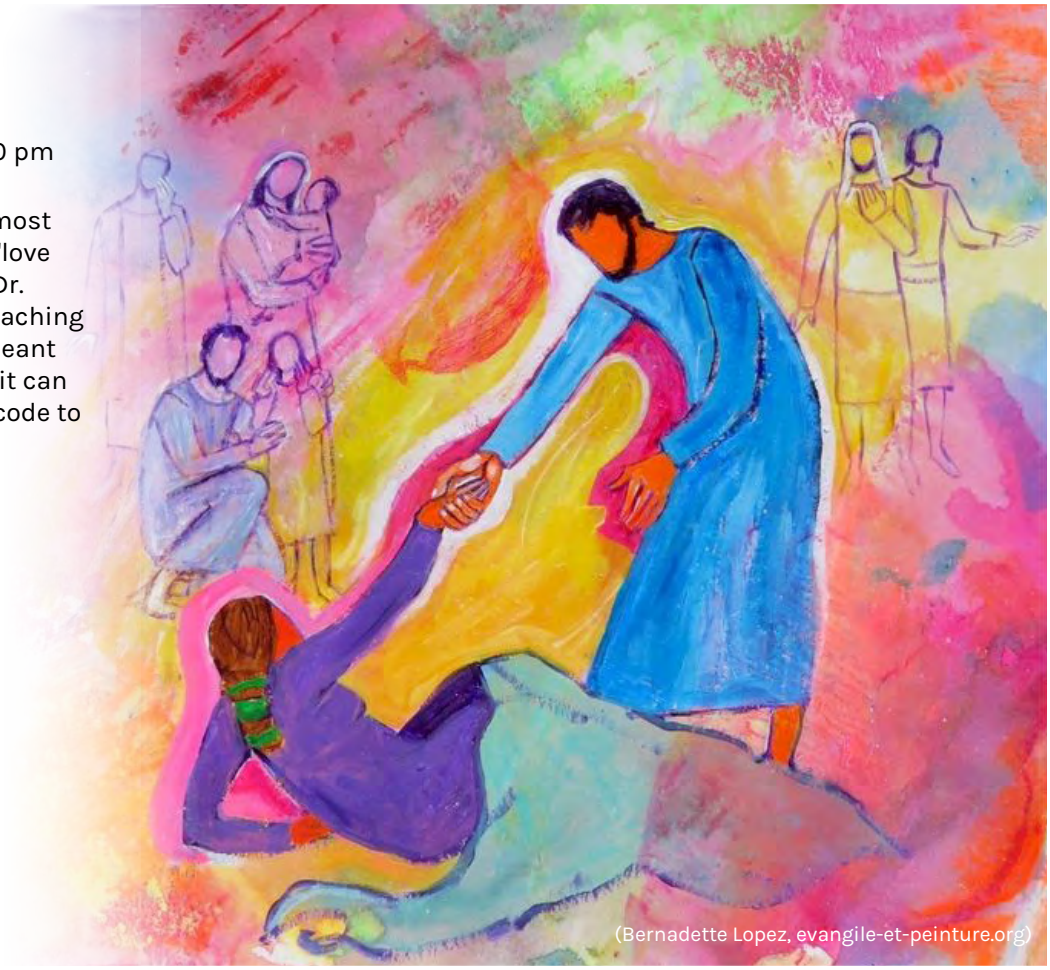
Join us for another round of fun, food, fellowship, and friendly rivalry! We'll share a hearty winter soup, fresh rolls, dessert, beverages, laughs, and camaraderieas teams of four compete to finish a 300+ piece jigsaw puzzle. Create your team in advance, or join a team that night. Either way, everyone wins in spending time with friends—new and old! Sign up at hope-pc.org. For more information or to volunteer on the serving team, contact maryblazanin@gmail.com or 612-418-9729.

BRANCHING OUT: LOVE THY NEIGHBOR

Wednesdays | Feb 17–Mar 3 | 6:30 pm
Portland Worship Center

According to Jesus, the second most important commandment is to "love your neighbor as yourself." Join Dr. Nick Schaser for a three-week teaching series on what this command meant in its ancient context, and what it can mean for us today. Scan the QR code to register. lauren@hope-pc.org

Register



(Bernadette Lopez, evangile-et-peinture.org)

SUNDAYS

Sunday Funday
9:00–10:00 am | Garden Room | Infants–5th Grade
Kids 5th grade and under are invited to an hour of play and Bible time. julie.lewis@hope-pc.org

Wiggly Worship
10:30–11:30 am | Nursery (0–2 y.o.) + Garden Room (3–5 y.o.)
Little ones will listen to a Bible story, sing songs, make friends, and play. julie.lewis@hope-pc.org

Kids Church
During 10:30 am Service | Mountain Room | K–5th
After the children's message, kids are dismissed to worship and engage with God's story of love in kid-friendly ways. Kids will rejoin their parents at the end of the service. michaela@hope-pc.org

Breakfast Club
9:00–10:00 am | Youth Room | MS + HS Youth
Breakfast Club is designed for our youth community to connect before worship and intentionally study God's Word together. Afterwards, we will join the adults for worship and sit together in the PWC. michaela@hope-pc.org

High School Connect
6:00–8:00 pm | Youth Room | HS Youth
High school youth are invited to connect each Sunday evening. We will gather to share food, fellowship, and study God's Word. michaela@hope-pc.org

WEDNESDAYS

KWAM
6:30–7:45 pm | Community Events Room | Door 12
K–5th Grade
Kids. Will. Always. Matter. K–5th graders are invited to a weekly gathering where they'll experience God's big story of love through music, games, Bible stories, and small groups. michaela@hope-pc.org

Middle School Connect
6:30–7:45 pm | Youth Room | MS Youth
Middle school youth are invited to engage in Christ-centered community through games, worship, and God's Word! michaela@hope-pc.org

High School Leaders-in-Training
6:00–7:45 pm | Youth Room | HS Youth
High school youth are invited to experience discipleship in their own faith journey as they serve with Middle School Connect or KWAM programs. michaela@hope-pc.org

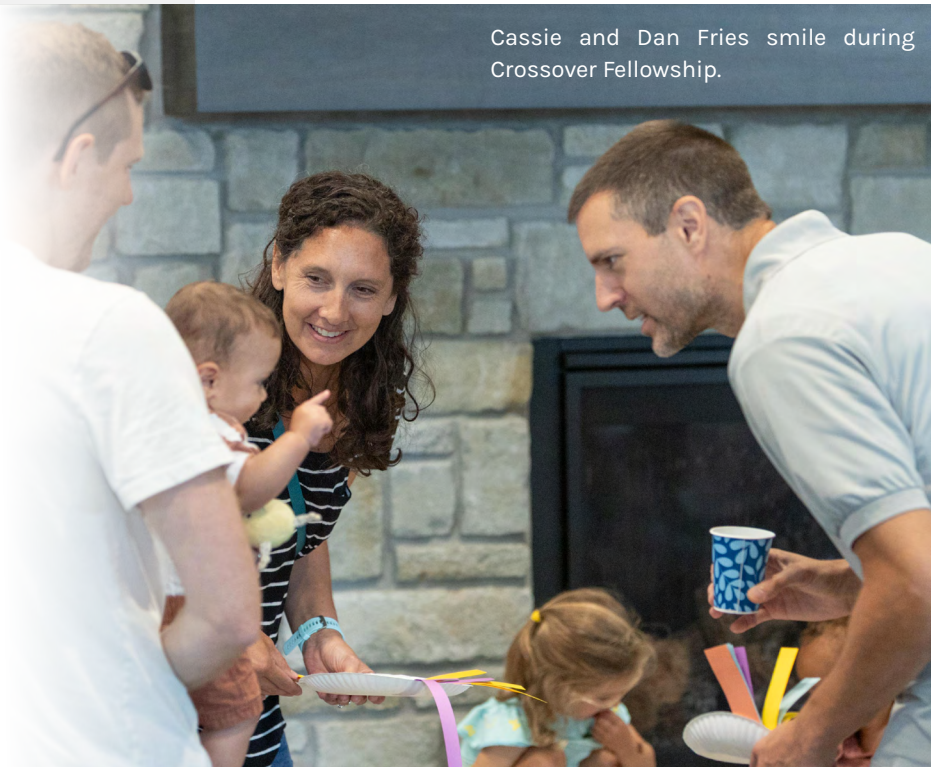
Instagram: @hope_next_gen

Sign up for Next Gen emails

YOUNG FAMILIES BIBLE STUDY

Dec 17, Jan 14, Feb 18
5:15–7:00 pm | Commons

Parents of 0–5-year-olds, join us for Young Families Bible Study! We are a group of families that meets once a month for dinner, fellowship, and Bible study. We enjoy dinner together at 5:15, and adults start Bible study at 6:00 with childcare for the kids! Contact Megan Moya at meganrmoya@gmail.com.



Cassie and Dan Fries smile during Crossover Fellowship.

HOPE SHORES

Hope Shores Camp Staff Applications are Open!

Camp staff is the BEST Summer job! Come and work with youth, families, single moms, and more. It's a fantastic leadership experience where you will develop skills to lead small groups and 1-on-1 discussions and conversations about God and his Word. You will grow, laugh, have loads of fun, make new friends, learn new work crew skills, all while being intentionally led, encouraged, prayed for by the Camp Director and the Camp Ministry Assistant. If you're a college age individual, don't let this opportunity pass by! Apply at hope-shores.org.

2027 Hope Shores Schedule

Camp registration opens December 1!

June 4–6	College Age Camp
June 10–12	Young Kids Family Camp
June 13–18	2nd–5th Grade Week 1
June 20–25	2nd–5th Grade Week 2
June 25–27	Family Camp 1
July 8–11	Single Moms Family Camp
July 11–16	6th–8th Grade Week
July 23–25	Family Camp 2
July 25–30	9th–12th Grade Week
August 8	Camp Sunday

To apply for camp staff, register for camp, or learn more about the Gala, scan the QR code or go to hope-shores.org

Save the Date for the 2027 Hope Shores Gala!

Saturday, March 6 | 4:00–7:00 pm | Hope Church

Mark your calendar for our annual Hope Shores Gala that celebrates and supports the camping ministry of Hope Shores Bible Camp + Retreat Center.



SERVE

Community Emergency Service | 1900 11th Ave S
Pack grocery bags for outdoor food lockers, sort food rescue, help with food shelf setup.
Thursdays | Dec 10, Jan 14, Feb 11 | 9:30–11:30 am
Contact peggy@hope-pc.org

Good Neighbor Team — Refugee support + friendship
Offer practical support and friendship to a refugee family. Serve with other Hope volunteers as your schedule allows. Training provided by Arrive Ministries. peggy@hope-pc.org

Loaves + Fishes To Go Meals Distribution
Thursdays | Jan 28, Feb 25
Tuesdays | Dec 29
3:00–4:30 pm | Food prep and setup
4:30–6:00 pm | Meal packing, distribution, and cleanup
Contact peggy@hope-pc.org or sign up to serve other weekdays at tinyurl.com/HopeLoavesandFishes

Parent Share Class + Children's Team
Thursdays | Dec 10, No January meeting, Feb 11
Class | 6:15–8:00 pm
A support group discussing parenting and other issues affecting families facilitated by Tamara Dauphin-Whear, Mental Health Counselor and Coach. Contact Tamara at 612-388-8514 or tamarawhear@gmail.com

Children's Team | 6:00–8:15 pm
Help with activities for children during Parent Share. peggy@hope-pc.org

USA Homestays: Host an International Student
Students from around the world attend local universities and many would love to connect with an American family. Host short-term (1–2 weeks) or long-term (3+ months). Contact Ben Robison at benr@usahomestays.org or 612-770-0031.

PRAY

Pray for mission partners—contact peggy@hope-pc.org

Pray with others serving refugees
Wednesdays | 2:30 pm | Zoom
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81236437761

DONATE

Donate funds to our community partners serving neighbors in need:
Community Emergency Service — cesmn.org/donate
Loaves and Fishes — loavesandfishesmn.org/donate
VEAP — veap.org/ways-to-give/donate-funds
Every Meal — everymeal.org/give

Donate food items to Community Emergency Service and VEAP—bring to the marked grocery cart in the Link. For most needed items lists go to:
cesmn.org/donate-2/
veap.org/ways-to-give/most-needed-items

Donate welcome bag items for the ACTS program at Union Gospel Mission—bring to the marked grocery cart in the Link or contact peggy@hope-pc.org.

- 3-in-1 shampoo/conditioner/soap
- Hand sanitizer
- Razors and shaving cream
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Socks
- Winter hats
- Alarm clocks
- $10 Walmart/Target gift cards

VINE + BRANCHES

Store clerks are needed for the following shifts:
Wednesdays | 4:45–8:15 pm
Thursdays | 12:45–4:15 pm
Saturdays | 9:45 am–1:15 pm
Do you have an interest in making those in our community feel valued, dignified, and cared for? Volunteer for one 3 1/2-hour shift per month. Responsibilities include opening and closing the store, working at the checkout counter, stocking clothing, and most importantly, welcoming all our customers and showing them the love of Jesus. Contact anne@hope-pc.org or 612-866-1359 for more information.

Store Hours
Wednesdays | 5:00–8:00 pm
Thursdays | 1:00–4:00 pm
Saturdays | 10:00 am–1:00 pm
Donate clothing and household items to Vine and Branches. Biggest needs for this upcoming season: men's jeans, sweatpants, pajamas, and underwear. Bring clothes and household donations to the marked bin in the Link. For more information, visit hope-pc.org/hope-center/vine-branches

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nueva Esperanza
Tegucigalpa, Honduras
August 2–9, 2027 | with Hope Mission Partners Carlos + Barbara Barahona
Receiving applications starting January 1. Passports required.



Congratulations to:

Cassie and Dan Fries on the birth of Olen James on August 20, 2026.

Claire and Darby Voeks on the birth of Eloise Ann on October 18, 2026.

Sympathy and Prayers to:

The family of Faye Stalwick who died on July 19, 2026.

The family of Dick Pearson who died on August 25, 2026.

The family of Mel Bourne who died on August 29, 2026.

The family of Marilyn Mullen who died on September 2, 2026.

The family of Naoma Estes who died on September 22, 2026.

The family of Linda Delzer who died on October 5, 2026

The family of Freda Stavrou who died on October 9, 2026.

The family of Jim VanDerWerf who died on October 15, 2026.

HOPE
CHURCH

7132 Portland Avenue S.
Richfield, MN 55423

hope-pc.org
612-866-4055

Nonprofit
Organization
US POSTAGE
PAID
TWIN CITIES MN
Permit No. 2508



Sunday Worship | 9:00 am Traditional | 10:30 am Contemporary