



ANNUAL REPORT

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KNOW | LOVE | BE



Hopesters,

For years, Hope’s Mission Statement has been: Bringing People Closer to Jesus. This mission statement has served us well and we aren’t looking to change it. However, we recently added a new layer to Hope’s Mission statement and we hope in the coming year(s) this will bring some clarity and direction to where we are going and what we hope for those that call themselves Hopesters!

As we continue to direct our energy and efforts towards Bringing People Closer to Jesus, we want to help people frame up their journey by challenging ourselves in how we Know Jesus, Love Jesus, and Be Jesus. You’ll see this theme played out in the pages of this report, but here’s a brief overview.

Know Jesus

This is where our journey of faith often begins. Knowing Jesus is about learning who He is, understanding His teachings, and grasping the significance of His life and sacrifice. It’s like meeting someone for the first time, getting to know their history, and figuring out what makes them tick.

You might know Jesus by reading the Bible, attending church services, or studying His life. It’s about the head knowledge, but it’s just a part of our Jesus journey.

Love Jesus

Once you’ve started to know Jesus, this is the part where your heart gets involved. Loving Jesus goes beyond mere facts and information. It’s about developing a deep, personal relationship with Him.

Loving Jesus is akin to falling in love with someone. It’s about embracing His grace and forgiveness, feeling His presence in your life, and understanding His boundless love for you. This love motivates you to worship, pray, and serve others in His name.

It’s not just about what you do, but why you do it. When you love Jesus, your actions are fueled by a desire to honor and please Him. It’s not an obligation; it’s a joyful response to His love.

Be Jesus

As we come to know Jesus, fall in love with Jesus, we then desire that we Be Jesus to those around us. Being Jesus to others is the moment when our knowledge and love for Jesus manifest in transformed lives. Being like Jesus means becoming more Jesus-like in our character, actions, and attitudes.

It’s not about perfection, but about progress. We’re all works in progress, but we’re striving to be more patient, loving, kind, and forgiving, just as Jesus was. It’s about living out His teachings, following His example, and being light and love to a dying world.

Being like Jesus is when your faith becomes tangible. It’s seen in your interactions with others, your responses to adversity, and your daily choices. It’s about letting the world see Jesus in you!

Know, Love, and Be Jesus are interwoven. You can’t truly love Jesus without knowing Him, and you can’t be like Jesus without loving Him. They’re part of a beautiful, lifelong journey that deepens your faith over time.

The heart of Hope’s mission statement is not just about knowing facts or having warm feelings, but it’s about transformation. It’s about becoming more like the One we follow, reflecting His love and grace to the world.

As we head in to 2024 let’s keep seeking to Know, Love, and Be Jesus. May this journey bring you peace, joy, and a deeper understanding of the incredible love Jesus has for each of us!

Peace,
Nick

35
YEARS



This past year we celebrated 35 years of lifting up Jesus as a church. We spent time celebrating Hope’s Jesus journey which started out in a shopping center and placed us here on 33 beautiful acres. We have a 35-year history of honoring Jesus here in the Andover community and beyond! And we are looking forward to another 35+ years of being the hands and feet of Jesus to a community and world that desperately need to know Him.

BULLFROGS AND BUTTERFLIES

PRESCHOOL

KNOW: Each week the preschool staff incorporates a Bible point into their lesson because while we are preparing the kids for school academically we are also trying to introduce them to Jesus and plant the seeds of faith!

LOVE and BE: One of the main goals of the preschool staff is to love our students and families well. We actively try to connect, walk alongside, and be Jesus to their family in any way possible.

We are having a wonderful school year so far. All of our classes are full, so we have 54 students with a wait list!



KNOW JESUS. LOVE JESUS. BE JESUS. This is the foundation of all we do at Kids of Hope and we are excited to make this a focus for us, the kids, and families we serve in 2024. Our team includes Ashley Enns(Kids of Hope Pastor), Shanna Sommers (Elementary Ministry Director), Brandy Ybarra (Blast Director) and new members Lauren Griffis (Preschool Ministry Director), Shauna Bussard (Wings of Hope Director) and Brooke Dick (Kids Day at Hope Director).

KIDS OF HOPE



***At Stellar VBS,** over 620 kids explored how Jesus shined hope, love, forgiveness, and joy to the world-and how we can do the same with His power!! We had a week full of faith discoveries, memorable music and epic adventures that helped kids grow closer to Jesus! We discovered what it means to shine Jesus’ light! We had over 220 STELLAR volunteers!*

We love the intentionality in communicating the gospel with “Wonder Ink” Curriculum. Kids are able to articulate Biblical truths they learn about and are truly growing closer to Jesus and each other while having fun! We’ve seen an increase in Sunday numbers and have added a 3rd nursery and a double dippers class for kids who are here for both services. These kids learned the books of the Bible through fun games and activities. They then learned about the Armor of God, Fruits of the Spirit and the Beatitudes.

Wings of Hope, our special needs ministry, is getting together monthly for activities and is meeting with area churches special needs programs to do outreach activities. We provide buddies for several children in their classes and have up to 16 Wings of Hopesters join us between Sundays and Wednesdays.

Blast, our Wednesday night ministry, is a fun time with friends and learning more about Jesus. Blast volunteers are truly amazing at helping tired kids have fun and showing them Jesus! Elementary kids have used “High Voltage” curriculum for over 20 years and we love how it engages kids with silly videos and also helps us teach deep biblical lessons without a screen.

Kids Day at Hope is our new program for children ages two months through pre-school. Brooke is leading it so well. We currently have 64 kids enrolled and employ 13 people. We use “Wonder Ink” curriculum and are enjoying the chance to meet more people in our community. Brooke has received many words of encouragement from parents saying how thankful they are for this program, and how much their children look forward to coming each week. It is an honor to have the opportunity to bless families in our community weekly while also having the opportunity to show them the love of Jesus by loving their children well.

45 RPM (4th and 5th grade Rock’n Preteen Ministry) went to Superstart conference for our first overnight trip and learned about emotions.

SuperStart is a high-energy, intentionally crafted weekend event for preteens to hear the gospel, learn Biblical truths, and be called to a life of Kingdom Work.

Team Ion, our pre-teen leadership class, graduated our first class and they went on a mission trip to a food bank in Wichita. Their service training has made them an invaluable addition to our Kids of Hope volunteer team!

Baptism was a joyous occasion that celebrated the beginning of their spiritual journey. 27 children were baptized in September. As the children grow and mature, we pray they will continue to learn more about their faith and what it means to be a follower of Christ....Yay! God!

We hosted a parents night out! It was a hit for kids and parents alike! The kids enjoyed bouncy houses, craft, social interaction with friends and pizza. The parents enjoyed a night without kids!

Kids of Hope planned the Community Christmas Tree Lighting. The church sent out 20,000 mailers and over 1200 people came. The community enjoyed a live nativity, complete with camels! We gave away about a thousand burgers and hot dogs along with s’mores and apple cider. We encouraged family discipleship by showing parents how to teach their kids Biblical truths while making a family ornament to enjoy for years to come.

Kids of Hope has over 150 volunteers who serve in various capacities to help bring little people closer to Jesus on Sundays. Every volunteer plays a crucial role-whether teaching, helping, running sound or checking kids in at the check-in stations. We are incredibly grateful for each and every one of our amazing volunteers who make a positive impact in the lives of the children and families we serve. If you would like to join us in helping kids know and love Jesus better, we would love to add you to our team. Be Jesus!

MIDDLE SCHOOL

KNOW JESUS

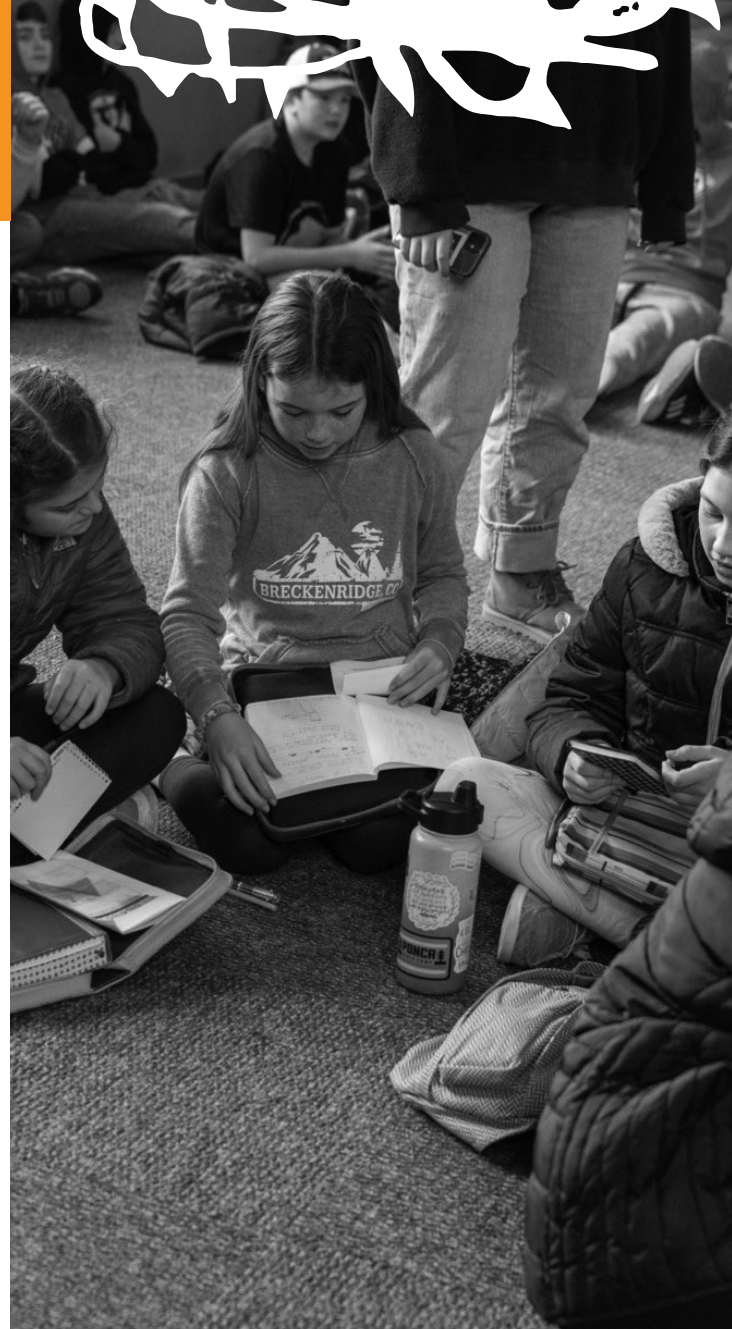
This past year we've been able to take our student through four different books of the Bible, worked on growing spiritual habits (reading their Bible, praying, singing worship songs, etc.), and met in small groups throughout the year.

LOVE JESUS

Throughout the school year we've created engaging and age-appropriate worship experiences that allow middle schoolers to express their love for Jesus through songs, prayer stations, and other forms of worship. The Big Chill, our annual winter retreat, is a great example of this. With nearly 80 students gathering to worship over a weekend and over 30 adults serving and loving these excited and eager kids as cooks, mentors, and recreation leaders.

BE JESUS

Small group leaders are the backbone of our Middle School ministry. It's the most tangible way we point kids to Jesus. These older teens and adults model Jesus' love and kindness in our small groups twice a week on Sunday and Wednesday. Many times, our small group leaders facilitate ways for their middle school small group to be Jesus to their friends, community, and their schools through things like food packing events, service projects, adopting a family for the holidays, or inviting their unchurched friends to church.



HIGH SCHOOL

2023 was an incredible year for our Hope High School Students! We had 55 students attend our Winter Retreat, The Rush. They learned how the world and sin around us causes so much damage and pain, yet God sent His Son so that we and our world can be restored.



We had fun community events where we invested in our students and helped them to KNOW they are loved by Jesus through mentor relationships. These happened at Chicken and Pickle, The Alley, a Fall Party, Summer Bible Studies, our Foam Party and other events geared towards connecting students with one another, their small group leaders, and bringing in friends who may not know Christ! Summer was crazy with raising over \$24,000 at Hopemart for students to attend Mission Trips and retreats to grow in their relationship with God! We had 30 students attend our Wichita Mission Trip, where God opened our eyes to the mission He calls us to in loving our neighbors and those close to home. Throughout this trip our students got to BE Jesus to our neighbors and share the Gospel with those who might not have heard it. We had 18 students and 3 adult volunteers head to Kansas City for a mission trip where they learned about how God has created each of us to lead in our own spheres of influence with the gifts He has given us. This trip engages our students' hearts to KNOW, LOVE, and BE Jesus all in one week! We've had student's lead on Sundays and Wednesdays as we seek to KNOW and LOVE God through studying His Word, worshiping Him, and learning to Be Jesus to our neighbors. We are anticipating what 2024 will bring for our High School Students!



MISSIONS



The Missions Team exists to prayerfully and carefully invest 7% of all of Hope’s general giving into carrying out the Great Commission of Jesus as we play our part in Bringing People Closer to Jesus here and around the world. It is a great honor, privilege, and joy for us to do so and to hear of the many wonderful and diverse ways God is working in so many places. Jesus is being lifted up from Andover, Kansas to Ghana, West Africa and many places in-between. Thank you Hopesters.

KNOW

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” – Jesus
Matthew 28:19-20

Our desire is not only for the name of Jesus to be lifted up and for many to come to place their faith in Him, but then to also come to know Him in a deep and personal way. Salvation and discipleship are key priorities, as well as, the development of mature and theologically sound, indigenous leaders. This is happening through TUMI (Seminary level training.) in Colombia, Cuba, El Salvador, and Mexico. It is also taking place through Heart for Lebanon in Bible studies, classes, discipleship and leadership training for refugees, and worship services. Also, a great number of disciples are being developed by way

of the many programs and services of the India Gospel League. In fact, this is happening through our missionaries in such other places as Albania, Amazon, Belize, Dominican Republic, England, France, Haiti, Kenya, Middle East, Mississippi, Spain, and Uganda, and Wichita. Thank you Hopesters.

LOVE

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” – Jesus
John 3:16

Because God demonstrated His perfect love of the world through the virgin birth, sinless life, atoning death, and victorious resurrection of Jesus, as His followers, we too are called to do the same. In fact, going into all the world with the Good News without love make us little more than a clanging, intrusive, and annoying gong. Love is demonstrated in the name of Jesus in so many, diverse ways by our missionaries. Consider just a very few: Infected feet are washed in Kenya, children are sent to school in Uganda, refugees basic essentials are supplied along with Bible studies and school in Lebanon, clean water is provided in Cuba, the masses are helped holistically in India, pastors are trained and encouraged in the Middle East, many are taught and counselled about sex trafficking in Belize, orphans are given a bed, food, and personal care in Haiti, and the list goes on and on. Thank you Hopesters.

BE

“They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’”

“He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’”
– Jesus
Matthew 25:44-4

As Followers of Jesus we’re called to be Jesus in this world acting as His presence, ambassadors, hands, feet, mouth, and ears. Mission is being Jesus on this planet in day-to-day life to all people of all tribes and nations. This happens every day and night across the globe because of your giving, prayers, and service. Thank you Hopesters.



VOLUNTEER/CONNECTIONS

2023 was a year that we welcomed a large number of guests and new Hopesters into our body. We also had a renewed energy around plugging into small spaces and connecting with one another. We had 50 people attend Hope Connection class, desiring to get to know who we are and what we believe here at Hope, as well as connect with other Hopesters. In 2023 we built upon the relationships that were created in Hope Connection by offering follow up classes meant to help people know Jesus on a deeper level. Faith Basics classes as well as Spiritual Gifts classes were attended by Hopesters that wished to connect in small spaces, deepen their knowledge of Jesus and discover how they are uniquely empowered by the Spirit to be Jesus to those around them.

We also kicked off our first year of Supper Club in 2023. We had over 110 Hopesters sign up and connect over a meal in our inaugural year. We learned a lot, made some changes, and are excited to be starting our second year of gathering together in this way.

2023 also saw our first ever volunteer fair. We started small with volunteer opportunities specifically around kids and student ministries, but look forward to growing that event to include all the areas people are able to use their gifts to be Jesus to those around them.



ADULT MINISTRY

KNOW, LOVE, BE. That pretty much sums up the driving force behind the Adult Ministry classes, groups, and Hope Institutes we’ve offered in 2023. We’ve done our best to create a pathway of sorts to progress from knowledge of Jesus to relationship with Him that is lived out in our daily lives. It all starts with Hope Connection where you can learn about Hope and what we believe. Following that, depending on if you’re new in your faith or pretty far advanced, we have class options to help you grow not just in knowledge, but in love of our savior. We believe studying God’s Word in community is one of the best ways to expand our knowledge, to grow in love, and to learn to be the hands and feet of Jesus. But don’t just take our word for it! Here’s what others have to say.

“I attended the Faith Basics class led by Steve and Naomi earlier this year. As a result, I have completed a 40-day devotional which led me to be baptized, accepting Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior! Wanting to dive in deeper, I began attending the Thursday morning women’s bible study covering Romans. Thank you all for the guidance you have given me thus far. Hope is now my home and Hopesters are my family!”

– A. KNIPPER

“While I have been following Christ for a good bit of my life, I never tire of hearing the same ol’ story as it seems to be perpetually new. Faith Basics, and now The Journey, are walking me back through this wonderful truth of God’s work in Christ. It is also deepening my understanding of the veracity of the Bible and helping equip me to “give an account” of my faith.”

– B. GALE

“Sharing the love of Jesus has become natural for me since attending Thursday morning Bible study. I now have confidence to study the Word at home and never feel silly asking questions about things I don’t understand. This is how I can best love the world around me, by intimately knowing Jesus to the best of my ability, so that the good news spills out effortlessly.”

– E. STROM

“I went to the Hope Institute class, A Kingdom Conversation on Race. The speaker truly wanted us all to know and love Christ. If we truly know Christ, we can’t help but love Him. As Christians we should love all people, because God has made all of us in his image. Understanding each other helps us to love each other. We can be Christ to others by loving and accepting all as Christ would.”

– L. HULSTINE

“Whether you are a new believer, are new to Hope, or are deepening your relationship with God, your pilgrimage should include Hope Connections, Faith Basics, Spiritual Gifts and The Journey. The leadership of the Pastoral Team is unprecedented in helping you Know Jesus through their teachings in this curriculum so you can continue to grow to Love Jesus and Be Jesus.”

– S. SEVART

“The Digging Deeper: Life of David class reminded me that Jesus is always there in spite of my transgressions and never gives up on me. I really enjoyed digging deeper into the books of Samuel. Naomi and Mark, thank you for taking the time to teach us.”

– R. & K. SARTIN

“If you really want to know our Heavenly Father...Then you need to buckle up, because here at Hope you are going to get exciting news! I encourage you to join the classes they have available! I began my journey with Faith Basics.... In Hope Connection you learn more about Hope and meet the pastors that work at Hope and sometimes meet their spouse.... In The Journey we are getting into How to Study the Bible and the timeline of Bible History.... Jesus is my life! And learning is one of the best ways for me to understand. As you learn you just want to keep going. I hope to see you all soon!” – L. WALKER

Don’t forget to check out welcome2hope.com/next-steps to see a schedule of upcoming classes so you too can learn to KNOW Jesus, LOVE Jesus, BE Jesus through the study of God’s Word in community.

MEN OF HOPE

During this past year, our three weekly Bible studies continued to meet faithfully, studying the books of Proverbs, Romans, and Ephesians respectively. There is always emphasis in the groups not just to focus on head knowledge, but increasing our affection for the Lord and seeking to live like him in day-to-day life.

Among the fun things that happened, we crowned a new Chili Cook-off champion, so we welcome any men to try and beat Pastor Charlie this year. Please, we don’t need him having bragging rights for another year!

A lot of men have done work in seeking to be the hands and feet to others. Many wheel chair ramps have been built, as other work projects as well for Widows, the elders of Hope and others in the community.

WOMEN OF HOPE

Throughout 2023, our mission was to lead women to KNOW Jesus, LOVE Jesus and BE Jesus. The primary area where the women have grown in KNOWing Jesus is Bible study. In January we had a variety of options to choose from and more than 90 women took on the challenge to grow in their knowledge of Jesus.

In the Spring we again had many options. This time we had over 150 women get plugged into a Bible study! It was exciting to see the women grow and thrive.

As we come to KNOW Jesus more, that naturally leads us to LOVE Jesus. As a ministry team one of the ways we work to help women experience the love of Jesus is through fellowship. We had many fellowship opportunities this year! Our calendar looked something like this:

January - watercolor painting and card-making party

March - Spring Retreat in Augusta

April - Ladies Night Out @ Rio's

June - Gardening get-together event where we learned about growing together as believers as we also received gardening tips

August - Bible study kick-off

October - Fall Retreat: Better Together with guest speaker, Jo Coltrain

December - Bluegrass Christmas in the Barn

As you can see it was a busy year, but it couldn't have happened without the help of many. At each of these events many women also had the opportunity to BE Jesus as they helped behind the scenes with set-up, clean-up, and serving in various capacities. We also had a group of women who took on the task of preparing and serving a meal to families staying at the Ronald McDonald House. The many women who helped at each of the events as well as with the various Bible studies were able to demonstrate to others that as we Know Jesus, we will grow in our Love of Jesus. And when you know Him and love Him, you can't do anything else but BE Jesus as we walk in service to one another in the love He has given us.



CIRCLE OF HOPE WIDOW'S MINISTRY

Circle of Hope Widow's Ministry is an outreach ministry at Hope.

Our purpose is to bless and serve the widow's that are involved in our group. These ladies come from many churches and backgrounds, and from all over the greater Wichita area. We meet for a luncheon and program once a month at Hope, and many months there is also an outside social activity. Some of our 2023 highlights include:

– Our group loves to play Bingo and there is a friendly amount of competition during our games. We had a couple of fun Bingo events in 2023.

– We took our annual trip to Botanica to see the tulips blooming as well as all of the flowers and trees coming back to life. We always make certain that even if our ladies have mobility challenges, they are able to go and enjoy the lovely gardens. This year we enjoyed the beautifully restored carousel as well.

– We had a wonderful time at our annual retreat this year on September 9, at the Point Event Center in Augusta. Our theme was "Choose Joy" and we were challenged, even during very difficult times, to choose the joy of the Lord.

– Most importantly, our ladies have wonderful, supportive friendships that grow throughout the year. They love and care for one another during the challenging days as well as the good days. We pray for our community of women frequently, and help meet their needs as they arise.

We are excited for more adventures and gatherings in 2024.

YOUNG ADULTS

This past year, we have continued our monthly hangouts, as we share meals, conversation, and games together. We try to encourage each other as we navigate school, work and life challenges and milestones together. David and Crystal Atkins have started a weekly small group of young adults and we have plans for more groups in the year to come.

Highlights & Wins of 2023 - "Look what God has done!"

- Hope Recovery started the first **Landing Youth Recovery Program** active in the state of Kansas! Over 45 adult volunteers stepped up to kick off the Landing March 2023 & 66 students have attended the Landing since it began.

- Hope Recovery started a **Grief Share** Group in June 2023! A team of 10 committed adults helped begin a weekly Tuesday group for people experience grief, loss & tragedy. And more than 20 people have participated in the Grief Share group since it started in June.

- Hope Recovery started a **Marriage Recovery** team! We will host our first annual **Marriage Retreat** this coming Feb 9-10, 2024! Led by local professional counselors, the retreat will offer teachings following "Gottman's Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work". We were able to offer a 13-week Wednesday night marriage class led by local professional counselors who donated their time to help couples find tools to improve their marriage.

- Hope Recovery helped offer our **2nd annual Men's Retreat** sponsored by the **Samson Society** - a group for men to find a safe place to share and experience authentic brotherhood. Hope Recovery began helping people find transitional housing & transportation by partnering with area transitional housing ministries - Hope is Alive (HIA); Easter Community Transition House (ECTH); 2nd Chance Ministries, and others.

- Hope Recovery has seen growth in the **Celebrate Recovery** ministry! More & more people are attending our Thursday night recovery group. We have 3 male & 3 female step studies that started in 2023! That's awesome! The CR leadership Team has grown and new people are stepping into leadership.

Challenges of 2023

- Sustaining the leadership of the Landing Youth Recovery.
- Managing the number of requests for help with transportation and housing.
- In the messy ministry of recovery, led by a messy pastor who is in his own recovery, there are numerous messy moments of challenging relational tension. Somehow, In the midst of the messy reality of our lives, there is also a beautiful presence of Jesus that is able to restore, redeem and renew our darkest pain and most chaotic messes!

So....How is Hope's Recovery Ministry working to fulfill the vision of knowing Jesus, loving Jesus & being Jesus to this world?

KNOW Jesus...

Recovery ministry is rooted in the truth that in JESUS we are safe to be fully known...and fully loved by Him and His people. Helping people to KNOW Jesus means that we help them to know that they are safe, valued and loved NO MATTER WHAT. As we listen and support one another, we help one another experience being safe to share our deepest secrets, pains, traumas, doubts and feelings without fear of rejection or condemnation. Knowing Jesus begins with knowing we are safe to be real - and then we can begin to trust and find healing.

LOVE Jesus...

In recovery, once we feel safe and begin to feel the healing that comes from being honest, we then begin to discover the roots of our pain or unhealthy choices. As we grow in understanding of the root behind our pain, trauma and addiction, then we begin to recognize and appreciate the deep tender love that Jesus has for us. The more we share, the more we see our brokenness, the more we appreciate and experience the eternal love of Jesus... It's a beautiful journey.

BE Jesus...

Step 12 in recovery is to take the lessons we have learned and pass them on to others. Maintaining our healthy life of sobriety, sanity and peace hinges upon our choice to enter into the pain of others and help bear their burdens by sharing what we have learned. Being Jesus means we give back and help lead others in the way we have found freedom.

If you are longing for healing or recovery in your journey, please reach out to Recovery Pastor Eric Hauck. He will keep all messages confidential. Please email him at eric@hopecc.net, or text him at 316-993-9312. You are LOVED, Your Story Matters, and there is Hope no matter how dark the storm you face!

FINANCE REPORT 2023

<p>ORIGINAL BUDGET: \$1,924,508</p> <p>Total 2023 Giving: \$2,146,375</p> <p>Number of individuals/ families participating: 465</p> <p>Additional funds for refugees: \$57,372</p>	<p>2024 BUDGET*: \$2,122,331</p> <p>% Increase over 2023: 10.3%</p> <p>*At Hope, we believe in full transparency. We have copies of the full budget available at the annual meeting. If you missed one, please call the church office and we'll happily get one to you.</p>	<p>RAISING MORE HOPE</p> <p>Original project cost: \$5,073,285</p> <p>Interest expense to date: \$286,723</p> <p>Money paid to date: \$4,957,509</p> <p>Outstanding pledges: \$24,363</p> <p>Current mortgage included in budget: \$120,000/yr</p> <p>Remaining balance: \$378,136</p>
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There's still time to jump in and help us become debt-free! Reach out to Kaycee Williams to hear about giving options, kaycee@hopecc.net.



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