

2023 Hope At-A-Glance Highlights (Covid Year 4)

A Distillation of Key Aspects from Our Life Together – especially those which are out-of-the-ordinary

Growing Deeper With God & Others – Worship, Scripture, Spiritual Practices, Community & Self-Awareness

- **Experience Worship** – Coffeehouse Worship on 9/24 – with 12 Hopesters offering songs, poems, readings or art; *“Whose Sermon Is It, Anyway” improv sermon & pajamas to worship on New Year’s Day*
- **Lenten Virtual Communities** – Wanderings devotional & microjournaling with NGO; *Reach for Simplicity* with Marcy. This included a “Yard Give” throughout March to promote simplicity and generate volunteer donations to Hope Scholars
- **Earth Care April** – weekly fun congregational polls with winner getting the chance to choose from a selection of earth-friendly products (toothpaste bites, laundry detergent sheets, bamboo toothbrushes, shampoo bars, etc.); Zero-Waste box for hard-to-recycle items such as clothing & accessories no longer salvageable (single shoe, too worn); non-food pet products; coffee bags & capsules
- **Ashes to Go** – offered Ash Wednesday symbols and blessings in the community at Dunkin’ at Moss Park Road, with team members imposing ashes
- **Ongoing Bible Doing, Book Clubs, Watch Parties** – Season 3 of “The Chosen” led by Rob Martz & Donna Adams; *Lectio Divina* led by NGO: Book Clubs *The Six Conversations* and *Sacred Rhythms*
- **Daily Prayer Practice at Noon** – for those targeted by hate, especially in our community
- Formally welcomed 6 **new members** with additional infant **baptism** of William Allen on 2/12
- **Growing Deeper Worship** – Thanksgiving stories; Epiphany *Star Words*; Remembering the Saints
- **Connecting over Food** – periodic post-worship snacks or meals to grow deeper with others – including World Communion Sunday & church birthday; spectacular Christmas treats; Corn & Rice Puff Pirate Booty giveaway for Father’s Day; and *Surprise Hot Dog Lunch*, with Ted & Debbie Palmer preparing lunch on 6/25 to connect with a sermon story about “radical hospitality” from the previous week
- **Friendship with Washington Shores Pres** – hosted 8th annual shared World Communion Sunday worship 10/1; 6th annual Steps for Change challenge for Prison Entrepreneurship Program to reach shared goal of \$1,300 (enough to fund a row of classroom seats).
- **Themed Seasonal Worship** -- *Lent in 6 Objects*: bread & temptation; stones & prophets; soil & purpose; knapsacks & the things we chase; coins, criticism & hidden motives; palms & expectations; *Advent Faith & Classic Christmas Specials*
- **Posted memes of love and encouragement to social media** – ready to share
- **Care for the Hope Family**: *Packages for Far-away College Students* – Hopesters donated snacks and gift cards, wrote notes of encouragement and mailed packages to distant college students in Spring and Fall 2023 ; *Meal Train* for Hopester after heart procedure; birthday cards; *Journey through Grief* books
- **Fun & Connection** – *free night at the Morse Museum* on 3/24 with dinner at Thai Orchid; lunch + *group hikes* in community; *Easter egg hunt* for Hope kids; 8/3 dinner and film *The Hiding Place*; *70s & 80s Dance Party* on 8/19 at Brewlando with DJ Michael Eckhoff; periodic *pop-up lunches*
- **\$20K Matching Gift for December** contributions to the Operating Fund. *Matched!*
- **Welcomed visit** from Andrew Pomerville, president of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary

Reaching Wider to Serve & Share God's Love with the World – Local Neighborhoods, Central Florida & the World

- **Spring Chicken Fling** – Funded 21 starter chicken flocks for *Heifer International* via *Chick Olympics* (three rubber chicken slingshot contests) & *Snack Cluck-tacular* event, with prizes for *Most Points, Best Flag, Best Team Name, Most Distinctive Snack & Best Treat Name*.
- **Sidewalk Talk** – Offered “free listening” at Lake Eola at the 10/21 Come Out With Pride event
- **Advent Project** -- Funded 10,000 meals for Central Florida families through Second Harvest Food Bank *plus* the cost to *translate the Beatitudes* into a new heart language through Wycliffe Bible Translators
- **Launched Cub Scout Pack 3418** for boys and girls ages 5-10 in this area of Lake Nona
- **Hope Scholars** – gave 5 college scholarships (3 in-house, 1 to Lake Nona High & 1 to at-risk Oak Ridge High) totaling \$13,975. *Since 2012, Hope has given 56 scholarships totaling \$80,845.*
- **Axe-throwing Contest for Charity** -- 35 participated in “Charity Axe-ion” event. The winning \$250 prize: *Canine Assistants* (given in memory of Tober Eagen) + two random drawings for \$125 each to *Susie's Senior Dogs* and *Shepherd's Hope*. Best team name: Love Axe-ually. Most Spirited: Ransom family
- **Christmas Eve Cookie Delivery to essential workers**, for second year – delivered to 14 fire stations, hospitals or ERs, 24-hour gas stations and hotels along with a hand-written note of thanks
- **Co-Sponsored screening of film *Pray Away*** on 4/30 at Orlando's Renaissance Theater – a documentary re: the lives of LGBTQ+ men and women wounded by the Church.
- **Special Collections** -- donated 30 pairs of gently worn footwear to Operation Shared Shoes; Donate 2 Dance – gave approximately 50 items of dance wear, shoes and costumes for an Orange County troupe in need; donated 187 blouses, suits, dress shirts and earrings to the *Campus Career Closet at Auburn University*; snacks to fuel workers during NPR affiliate WMFE Spring Fund drive; 625 diapers, 1K baby wipes, \$1,010 in cash & \$75 in gift cards & baby clothes for OCPs teacher with health crises in family
- **2023 Hope Prize** – \$1,800 to *Pet Peace of Mind*, letting hospice patients stay with pets as long as possible.
- **Rainbow Run** – gave free sno-cones and *Free Pastor Hugs, Mom Hugs & Dad Hugs* or walked/ran at 6/3 booth for LGBTQ community at 7th remembrance of Pulse massacre
- **Weekly Friday delivery rotation in Orlando for Meals on Wheels** through Seniors First
- **“Choose Love” and “We Stand for Love” multi-colored silicone bracelets** – 10,000 to wear & share
- **Day of Service on Sun 9/10** – *United Against Poverty* – cleaning & stocking grocery shelves; *Lake Nona Middle* -- painting bathrooms and weeding, preparing Thanksgiving placemats and bilingual encouragement cards for Meals on Wheels & writing notes to political prisoner Paul Whelan
- **Lake Nona Middle** – offered a “*Blessing of the Hands*” to faculty & staff at the start of the school year; created *Sidewalk Chalk* encouraging artwork & phrases for returning teachers; *gift cards for faculty drawings*; provided a *grab & go breakfast* for teachers & staff; co-sponsored *PTSA Christmas luncheon*; collected 48 regular-sized toiletry items in December for families in need; *Thank You Notes and Chick-Fil-A boxes* for LNMS students who help Gloria-Ann set up weekly
- **Miscellaneous** – *Souper Bowl of Caring* – 114 cans for LNMS pantry; free Valentine's e-cards to patients at St. Jude's Children's Hospital; surpassed 100,000 miles for *Charity Miles* team; reached 1,232 microloans totaling \$31,230 in 82 nations through *Kiva*; *Five Cents a Meal* monthly donations, totaling \$685; 3+ lbs pop tops, toiletries & 60 treat bags to *Ronald McDonald House*; 5 'Help Your Neighbor' Grants (\$525); recycled 12.5 lbs *contact lens blister packs*

Appendix A -- 2023 Partners & Extra Giving

Partners in Service are selected for 11 months each year by Hope family members to share 5 percent of that month's total offerings. Another 5 percent of monthly offerings is designated to the Distribution Fund, underwriting the volunteer matching fund and other service actions as determined by session. (Ten percent of July offerings fund the annual Hope Prize.) **Note: Some individuals/families select two non-profit Partners and others select as many Partners as Sundays in the month. The fewer charities selected, the larger the donations.**

1. Partners in Service for 2023

- Beth-El Farmworker Ministry (April-May)
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida (Nov-Dec)
- Cornerstone Hospice (April-May)
- Exodus Road (April-May)
- Harbor House of Central Florida (Nov-Dec)
- Hospice of the Comforter (Nov-Dec)
- Lifeboat Project (Sept-Oct)
- National Park Foundation (Jan)
- New Beginnings of Central Florida (Feb-March)
- One Pulse Foundation (June, Aug)
- Peace & Justice Institute (June, Aug)
- Pet Alliance of Greater Orlando (Jan)
- Polar Bears International (Feb-March)
- Southern Poverty Law Center (Sep-Oct)
- Wildlife Society, Florida Chapter (April-May)
- Zebra Youth (Nov-Dec)

2. Hope Prize 2023 – Pet Peace of Mind of Cornerstone Hospice

3. Extra Designated Giving 2023

10K meals & Beatitudes	\$2,920	TerraCycle Zero waste box	\$345
Pensons, Wycliffe	\$2,850	RIP Medical Debt (<i>added to 2022 gifts</i>)	\$338
Hope Scholars (<i>love gifts</i>)	\$2,174	Sidewalk Talk Registration	\$213
Per Capita, regional & nat'l	\$1,756	Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) for Turkey (<i>earthquake</i>)	\$200
Salvation Army Osceola (<i>following fire</i>)	\$1,000	Support for Lake Nona Middle School faculty & staff	\$150
Baby gifts for OCPS teacher in crisis (<i>excludes earlier gift</i>)	\$955	Sponsorship for Pray Away film screening & panel discussion	\$150
Go Fund Me for John Vega (<i>only \$\$ given through church</i>)	\$800	Assistance to additional persons outside congregation	\$149
Prison Entrepreneurship Program (<i>Steps for Change</i>)	\$745	United Against Poverty Thanksgiving groceries	\$140
5 Cents a Meal	\$685	Free Wheelchair Mission (<i>designated</i>)	\$100
Rainbow Run	\$655	PDA for Israel/Gaza (<i>humanitarian aid</i>)	\$80
Maui Strong (<i>Hawaii wildfires</i>)	\$630	Canine Assistants (<i>designated</i>)	\$67
Marlow Grants	\$525	New U.S. flag for LNMS (<i>designated</i>)	\$40
Heifer Int'l chicken flocks	\$520	PDA (<i>general</i>)	\$35

Appendix B -- 2023 Distribution Fund Paid Out

The annual 5% Distribution Fund exists explicitly for service actions and is calculated each month (except July due to the Hope Prize). The session/congregation periodically allocates money from this pool of money to fund service actions.

Recurring Each Year (\$6,500 in 2023)

- \$5,000 to the **Volunteer Matching Fund** – proportionately divided among nonprofits and schools where Hopesters document service
- \$1,000 to **PC(USA) mission co-workers Dan & Elizabeth Turk** resourcing health, environment, agriculture and safe drinking water, *Madagascar*
- \$500 for **2023 Community Service Scholarship** to Lake Nona High senior selected by administrators for extraordinary community service

Allocated Specifically in 2023 (\$2,765)

- \$500 to **Free Wheelchair Mission**, *transforming lives & communities in developing nations at \$96 per wheelchair. FWM supplied free Lenten devotionals to Hope*
- \$360 to Tim and Becky Johnson, **CRU mission workers** in high-danger area of world
- \$360 to **United Against Poverty**, funding Thanksgiving groceries with dignity for Central Florida families
- \$250 for **White Coat & Stethoscope** for new UCF Medical student with note from Hope
- \$250 to **Canine Assistants** (*top prize in charity axe-throwing contest*)
- \$200 for brick paver with logo at **Legacy Brick Walkway at Lake Nona High School**
- \$150 to **Ayad Attia**, mission co-worker among Arab diaspora with Pioneers – *monthly \$30 recurring gift will be part of recurring annual commitment in 2024*
- \$125 for mystery dinner theater tickets for Hope drawing, benefitting **Back to Nature**
- \$125 to **Susie's Senior Dogs** (*prize drawing charity axe-throwing*) – *caring for homeless senior dogs in an effort to place them into a loving home, nationwide*
- \$125 to **Shepherd's Hope** (*prize drawing charity axe-throwing*) – *free clinic for uninsured Central Floridians*
- \$120 to **Prison Entrepreneurship Program** (Steps for Change) – *filling modest gap in free-will gifts to fund a row of classroom chairs, coaching returning citizens to become self-reliant, contributing members of society*
- \$100 to seed **BSA Cub Scout Pack 418** – *inaugurating Hope-sponsored pack in the area*
- \$100 for **Easter Egg hunt** at community KinderCare to support local families