



Hope 10-Year Highlights –

A non-exhaustive reminder, 2012-2021

Growing Deeper With God & Others

Worship, Scripture, Spiritual Practices, Community & Self-Awareness

- Ministers at Hope – every Christ-follower who attends Hope – liturgizing, preaching, praying, leading, sharing life stories and reflecting on texts
- **Experience Worship** – periodic alternative worship services, that have included
 - Taize contemplative music & prayer service
 - Prayer Stations
 - That 70s Worship
 - Coffeehouse Worship
 - Gospel According to the Beatles coffeehouse worship
 - Scripture Stations
 - “Whose Sermon is it Anyway?” improv mini-sermons from congregant scriptures or questions
- **Lenten Virtual Communities** – including “Knowing Me, Knowing God” Myers-Briggs Personality & Spirituality; “Surprise Me, God” prayer experiment; Faith & Film Webex conversations; Lectio Divina via Google Hangout; simplicity practices; in-house videos prompting prayer experiments; Examen in private Facebook group; Praying in Color; Community Bible Experience and ether board
- 16 baptisms, 12 confirmands, 1 marriage vow renewal during worship
- **Hosted quarterly Central Florida Presbytery meeting** at Wycliffe Bible Translators in June 2017, with Hopesters providing desserts and offering hospitality, and in worship our band leading, Nancy & Erika Rembert-Smith co-preaching, and elders and friends of Hope serving communion
- **Bible “Doing”** (not just “study”) mid-week, 2x monthly, Sunday School, book clubs, movie clubs, in-person at local restaurants or via Zoom
- **Frosting-By-Numbers Cupcake Nativity** – Hopesters signed up to bring cupcakes in 2016 with either blue, orange, brown, white, pink or black frosting – arranging cupcakes *by-color-number* on a newsprint template to create a nativity scene. We snapped pictures to share, encouraging all in attendance to deliver cupcakes to neighbors, friends or co-workers and share the picture and story
- **“One Book, One Hope”** – together read *To Kill a Mockingbird* with discussions; in-home screenings with themed meals; attendance at play at Orlando Shakes
- **Friendship with Washington Shores Presbyterian**, our beloved sister church and the only predominantly African-American congregation in our Presbytery
 - Alternately hosting **World Communion Sunday** worship since 2016
 - **Peace & Justice Pilgrimage to Montgomery, AL** to the new National Museum of Peace & Justice and the Legacy Museum for learning, worship, conversation and friendship
 - Saturday visit to **Harry T. & Harriet V. Moore Center in Mims**, touring museum of replica home of the bombed home where the Moores were martyred by Klansmen in 1951

- Shared Maundy Thursday worship, Steps for Change to log a thousand miles together each week and raise awareness for important causes, service projects, movie clubs, flower arranging class, prayer breakfasts, and social gatherings
- **Pet Blessing worship service** outside LNMS on a Sunday morning
- **Eat & Walk Lake Nona** – gathering at local eateries for meals & connection during summer, then walking in the community together
- Coordinated **72-hour Presbytery-wide Prayer Vigil** surrounding Jan 2021 USA transfer of power
- Fun Friends Room for PreK students; Easter Egg hunts; VBS; kids' carnivals
- Young adults: Confirmation classes; two students attended youth Triennium at Purdue; Fun in the Son camp; service projects; periodic Zoom gatherings
- Themed potlucks to gather and connect: Taste of Home potluck (bring a dish associated with your hometown); Chili Cook-Off + Bake-Off; "Smooth" opening for Fall Bible Doing with Nancy, Marcy and Children's Minister Tammy Strogis providing favorite smoothie samples
- Dove Award winning artist **Nichole Nordemann performed a private concert** for Hopesters & friends in the home of Marcy Kraft, who won a national contest
- **Christmas Art** – 4 submissions printed on Hope Christmas cards (*mailed from Christmas, FL*)
- **Quiet Day Apart Retreat** with group reflection, personal space for spiritual disciplines, labyrinth or trail walking for all at San Pedro Retreat Center (Feb 2019)
- Nancy offered the ecumenical prayer of dedication at ceremony in which Orange County Public Schools dedicated Lake Nona Middle School in February 2012
- **Evenings with Dixie** –weekly-ish group gatherings in 2017 for a meal or activity for the first 5 months after Dixie Gibbons was widowed, since she worked in isolation from home
- **Verse of the month** – often with a reflection from a Hopester
- Remembering the Saints – each All Saints Day recognizing the ongoing impact of those who've died
- **Women's** Gatherings & two retreats + **Men's** Gatherings over football or campfire
- **Star Words** for year-long reflection at Epiphany & Scripture Watch Words
- During most of COVID in 2020, offered **weekly pre-recorded worship** shared by Hope and Oviedo Presbyterian (where Nancy's husband serves as pastor) -- featuring carefully mixed songs by the Hope band, readings and prayers from numerous Hopesters, and scripture reflections from Nancy and Paul
- Hope Lake Nona's **name arrived on Mars** 2/18/21 via silicone chip aboard NASA rover Perseverance

Our Priorities:

- *God Before All*
- *Kingdom Before Congregation*
- *People Before Property*
- *Love Before Doctrinal Precision*

Reaching Wider to Serve & Share God's Love with the World

In Local Neighborhoods, Central Florida & the World

- Commit to give 20 percent of offerings outside our doors – totaling **\$657,191** from 2012-2021. See “*Some Equivalents*” (pp. 6-7) to learn what a mere fraction of these gifts has accomplished:
- **Partners in Service** – Dividing a portion of monthly contributions among non-profits recommended by members of the congregation (10 percent of monthly donations 2012-2018; 5 % from 2019-present with the other 5% going into a Distribution Fund that underwrites other service actions)
- **Love in a Glove Box** – collected items, prepared & distributed *hundreds* of ziplock bags of non-perishable food and/or hygiene items to homeless persons or others in need
- **Hope Scholars** – gave 48 college scholarships totaling \$56,920 to in-house applicants + 1 grad at Oak Ridge HS (connected by pre-history to that community) + 1 Lake Nona HS senior, beginning 2019.
- **Golf Scramble, Silent Auction, Dessert Auction, Point-a-Thon College Football Challenge & More** to raise money for Hope Scholars
- **Matching Fund** –\$45,000 to date divided proportionally among agencies where Hopesters documented volunteer service each year (\$3K in 2012; \$5K each, 2013-2019; \$3K in 2020 & \$4K in 2021)
- **Presbyterian Giving Catalog** -- Gave *four* \$1,500 Garden Wells in Ghana (2 in 2016; 1 in 2017; and 1, in partnership with Washington Shores, in 2021); provided national matching grant in 2017 for one-day blitz to generate 150 piglets to communities; gave *two* \$1,300 farm bundles, and *one* \$1,500 Grain Bank in 2017– all of which transform communities
- **Day of Service** –serving in the community on a Sunday in lieu of regularly formatted worship – or, during COVID, on our own. Has included de-trashing parking lots, planting and mulching at LNMS; serving meals at Fisher House for VA Hospital and Ronald McDonald House; trivia contest & donuts for Somerby senior living; leading a Sunday worship service at Westminster Towers and more.
- **Swan Boat races at Lake Eola** in 2015 for charity
- **Bowl of Charities** in 2012 with teams bowling for specific charities
- **Wear-One-Share-One** – bringing still wearable blue jeans our kids or we no longer wear to share with those in need, while wearing jeans, favorite team jerseys, and enjoying a cookout
- **Fill-the-Drawers-With-Drawers** – drive to collect new underwear for those in need
- **Photo Contests for Charity During COVID** – Easter bonnet contest, Christmas Lights of Hope contest
- **Marlow “Help Your Neighbor” Grants** –offsetting costs for hands-on service to non-family members
- **Funded Heifer ‘Ark’ in 2018** – provided two of every kind of starter-animal Heifer provides to help communities transcend poverty and “pay it forward:
- **Kiva Lending Team** – reached 1,079 microloans totaling \$27,475 in 82 nations
- **Eradicated \$1,080,600 in medical debt via RIP Medical Debt (Advent 2019 and 2021)**
- Periodic financial gifts to other area churches -- either by drawing or designation
- Turk Family mission co-workers in Madagascar, serving through seminary teaching and gospel proclamation, public health, sustainable farming

- Walks/Runs – Global 6K for Water; CommUNITY Rainbow Run in 2018; AIDSWalk Orlando; RunNona; Lake Nona Pig Run
- Summer Beach Cleanup & overnight at Satellite Beach
- Ongoing collections – 10,000+ pop-tops for Ronald McDonald House; toiletries for various ministries; and (now discontinued) Box Tops for Schools for Lake Nona Middle
- Mission Trips -- Two young adult mission trips to Savannah in 2019; Hopesters worked with Kids Alive in Dominican Republic in 2017
- **New Shoe Drive** – collected 43 pairs for children at Christmas via Christian Help
- Co-signed full page ad on 11/11/18 in Orlando Sentinel and Pittsburgh Post-Gazette to show support for Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh following racial terror murder
- **Charity Miles team** – surpassed 65,400 miles walked for charities
- Wiffle Ball Home Run derby, cookout, and baseball trivia contest for charity
- **Boxed Lunches to Non-Medical Essential Workers in Lake Nona** – Partnering with local restaurant Sweet Mamas, on 6/3/20 Hopesters delivered **162 pre-ordered Boxed Lunches** (*sandwich/ wrap, chips, cookies, drink + compostable coolers of ice*) **to workers at 10 local businesses** keeping the community going mid-pandemic: *Publix, UPS Store, Fire Department #76, Walgreens, Advent Health Centra Care, Lady Bird Academy, RaceTrac, 7-11, Lake Nona Middle, Camden Lavina*
- Putt-putt, trivia contest, and silly selfies + dinner
- Gave more than \$5K to combat human trafficking in Central Florida
- Gave **Legacy Chair at new UCF College of Medicine** (raising \$2,130) for Lewis auditorium when Hope was less than one month old; before our launch, **dedicated a \$1,000 chair in laureate lecture hall** at Sanford-Burnham Medical Research auditorium before it closed Lake Nona campus
- Benefit concert for 2 Cents a Meal (later 5 Cents a Meal) at Buffalo Wings & Rings in Hunters Creek netting \$870 one month after launch
- Annual \$500 *Hope for the Future Community Service Scholarship* to LNHS grad, beginning 2019
- **Forgave \$1,000 of student debt for two different LNMS staff members** selected by peers
- **Recycled Electronics** – **12 old phones, 4 tablet computers & 4 other** electronic devices to Cell Phones for Soldiers, benefiting veterans & disposing unusable items in environmentally friendly way
- **Hope Prize** – annual donation of July tithes + certificate or plaque to congregation-nominated and determined nonprofit:
 - *Creation & Animal Care, 2015: Back to Nature Wildlife Refuge*
 - *Poverty Action, 2016: Celebration 3-4-7-4-7 Cares*
 - *Health & Wellness, 2017: Shepherd's Hope*
 - *Gospel Proclamation, 2018: Wycliffe Bible Translators*
 - *Education & The Arts, 2019: Adult Literacy League*
 - *Justice, 2020: The Lifeboat Project*
 - *Shepherd Care for the Often Neglected, 2021: Seniors First*
- CPR Training

- **Smoke Detector Safety Outreach** -- Gave 180 pairs of 9-volt batteries in compostable ziplock bags with guidelines to replace smoke detector batteries 2x yearly and to safely dispose of old batteries – along with info about Hope. Team led by Jeff Sooknarine stationed a table outside local Sam's Club on 12/10.
- Monthly designated support for the Penson family, serving Wycliffe Bible Translators in USA
- **Lake Nona Middle** – served breakfasts, lunches, pie days, desserts; shared numerous gift cards for raffle; *awarded COVID Superstar certificates and cash gifts* -- \$300 to teacher & \$200 to staff member selected by colleagues for extraordinary service amid a global pandemic; donated mulch and plants; provided assistance for numerous employees or families in crisis – including donating furniture and funds to help a new teacher, who arrived after being displaced by Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico
- **Book or Magazine Give-or-Take**
- **Acts of Service** – Clean the World, United Against Poverty, Christian Help, Pelican Beach Cleanup, meals at Ronald McDonald House, leading worship at Westminster Towers, served at KidsRock Orlando lunch, worship and games for children in Paramore, Bishop Grady Villas, Lift Disability Network, Make 2-Give 1 Hurricane Preparedness Kits; Dress for Success Orlando (2014); serving lunch downtown with homeless ministry of Oviedo Presbyterian Church; and more

Some Equivalents

We commit to give 20 percent of offerings outside our doors – totaling **\$657,191** from 2012-2021. *These “Equivalents” showcase what a mere fraction of these gifts has accomplished:*

- **Feed 500 Program of Utange Orphans Charity in Kenya** (*Free will in May 2017 -- \$2,434.50*)
 - *Fed 325 orphaned children for one month*
- **Eden Reforestation Project** (*\$1,241 -- \$198 in 2012; \$275 in 2013; \$275 in 2014; \$493 in 2017*)
 - *Planted 12,410 trees & provided 124 days of employment* (\$0.10 plants one tree; \$10 provides a day's labor to a local worker)
- **Helen Keller International** (*Apr 2017 -- \$657*)
 - *Provided 876 supplements of Vitamin A* (75 cents delivers Vitamin A Supplements to reduce child mortality)
- **Water is Life** (*\$1,188 -- \$385 in 2015; \$672 in 2017; \$131 in 2019*)
 - *Gave 29 home nano bucket system (\$40 each) + 2 straw filters (\$10 each) in Puerto Rico*
 - ❖ *One straw filter will on average safely filter water for one child for a year*
 - ❖ *One home nano bucket system, with proper back flushing, can purify water for a family for 10 years*
- **Second Harvest Food Bank Orlando** (*\$2,687 -- \$230 in 2012; \$140 in 2013; \$250 in 2014; \$310 + \$250 in 2015; \$744 in 2017; \$304 in 2019; \$459 in 2020*)
 - *Provided 10,748 meals*, since \$10 provides 40 meals
- **Donors Choose** (*Nov 2017 -- \$806*)
 - *Underwrote 37% of the \$2,144 cost of a MakerSpace for Oak Ridge High School in Orlando – supporting STEM education at the school, which has 100% of the student body on free or reduced lunch*
- **Arbor Day Foundation** saved 72,500 square feet of rain forest (\$10 saves 2,500 sq. ft. area of rain forest) *April 2014 -- \$290*
- **Society of St. Andrew** provided 62,350 servings of nutritious food (\$120 = 5K servings) (*\$1,496 -- \$187 in 2012; \$300 + \$187 in 2013; \$267 in 2014; \$215 in 2015; \$340 in 2016*)
- **Deworm the World** protected 6,167 students from tropical diseases (1 student = 6 cents, per thelifeyoucansave.org/Where-to-Donate/Evidence-Action) (*February 2014 -- \$370*)
- **Oxfam** trained 7 families to sustainably grow food (\$50 trains a family) (*Feb 2014 -- \$370*)
- **American Bible Society** got 50 Bibles into the hands of Chinese Christians who've waited years for a Bible (\$5 = one Bible) (*July 2014 -- \$250*)
- **Christian Help** fed 3 families for a month (\$60 = food for family of 4/month), *Sept 2014 -- \$185*
- **Himalayan Cataract Project** gave 17 sight-restoring surgeries to blind persons (material for one surgery = \$25) (*January 2015-- \$425*)
- **Against Malaria Foundation** – provided 90 anti-malaria nets in high risk areas (\$3 = one net) ... (*February 2015 -- \$270*)

- **Seniors First** – provided 200+ days of nutritious Meals on Wheels (\$60 = nearly six days of meals) – (\$2,212 --\$188 in 2012; \$325 in 2013; \$295 in 2015; \$255 in 2016; \$149 in 2019; \$1K in 2021)
- **IDignity** – -- helped secure essential legal identification for 2.5 individuals (On average, it takes 3 hours of volunteer time + \$125 to assist an IDignity client in obtaining essential legal identification documents) (Aug-- \$310)
- **A Gift For Teaching Orange County** – provided supplies for approx. 17 classrooms of students (\$50 funds a classroom with supplies for every child) (\$848 -- \$75 in 2012 ; \$320 in 2013; \$310 in 2015; \$143 in 2019)
- **UNICEF** – provided measles protection for 400 children *and* nearly 20 days of food for a malnourished child (\$30 = measles protection for 100 kids; \$5 = 5 days of food for malnourished child) (Oct & Nov -- \$139.71)
- **Second Chance Greyhounds** (Aug -- \$340)
 - ❖ *sponsored a prison greyhound for nearly 6 months*, as inmates learn a trade and give back, preparing former racing greyhounds for adoptive homes (\$60 = 1 month sponsorship)
- **International Justice Mission** (\$2,149 -- \$290 in 2012; \$970 in 2013; \$375 in 2016; \$514 in 2020)
 - ❖ *provided access to medical care for 11 survivors of sexual abuse* (@\$180)
 - ❖ AND *1 day of legal representation for innocent prisoners* (@\$95)
 - ❖ AND *1.5 shares of start-up costs for a widow's small business* (\$50 per share)
- **UNICEF** (\$741 -- \$91 in 2012; \$185 in 2013; \$66 in 2014; \$400 in 2016)
 - *Provided two bikes to deliver medicine* (\$267 provides one bike)
 - AND *measles protection for 332 children* (\$87 immunizes 140 kids)
- **DeWorm the World** (\$710 -- \$370 in 2014; \$340 in 2016)
 - *treatment for ~ \$1,420 children for one year* (1 child for 1 year = less than \$0.50)