



**MAKING**

*Abundant Life*

**KNOWN**



**"I CAME THAT THEY MAY HAVE LIFE AND  
HAVE IT **ABUNDANTLY**" JOHN 10:10**





**Florida-Bahamas Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



Hope Family,

Before his ascension, Jesus gave a charge to the disciples to “go, 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.” This joyous and blessed burden of ministry has been taken up by generation after generation of disciples intent on sharing the good news of the gospel and the love of God with their neighbors.

For almost a quarter of a century, a group of disciples have gathered to hear the good news, to grow in their faith, and to share in the sacraments together as a community called Hope Lutheran Church. We know it better as our Hope Family.

Through the years, Hope has been well positioned for easy and natural growth as the population of The Villages has exploded. This growth continues as The Villages expands to the south. It's easy to chart the numerical impact as we see scores of new houses and neighbors and a rise in attendance. However, Christ's call was not simply about numbers, but about strengthened faith, fruits of the Spirit shared with the community, and the ever-advancing spread of God's grace among the people.

In John 10:10, Jesus tells us, “I came that **they** may have life and have it abundantly.” This abundant life is the outpouring of God's grace, peace, joy, and hope in the lives of disciples, both for themselves and as a gift to be shared with those around them. As we continue living more fully into our mission of knowing Christ and making Christ known, my vision is not simply to see people in seats, but to witness abundant life being shared with those in and around The Villages.

We have the privilege to share in the Family business of our Heavenly Father as we Make Christ Known to those who have never heard the gospel, those who wonder if such a gift could possibly be for them, and to those who have forgotten or have neglected the gift they once treasured.

As we embark together on our shared Making Abundant Life Known Capital Campaign, I am most excited about the blessing of sharing Abundant Life with those around us as we each grow our discipleship roots deeper through faith formation, worship, fellowship, and service. As we are sent to be fishers of people, we cast broad nets in our combined ministries of Hope at our three campuses; Hope Central Campus, Hope Lake Weir Campus, and our new Hope South Campus.

We often hear from new visitors that the people of Hope are welcoming and loving at all campuses. We hear affirmation of our open table, meaningful preaching, excellent music, and our commitment to serving. While our campuses may each have their own personalities and strengths, the DNA of knowing Christ and making Christ known is consistent and valued throughout.

Thank you for your commitment to an open table and open arms. Thank you for extending loving hospitality in worship and outside. Thank you for volunteering in ways that strengthen our neighbors. Thank you for sharing in this vision to expand our roots as a congregation to Make Abundant Life Known throughout the tri-county area. Until we meet again, I bid you...

Peace,

Pastor Jon-Marc

**Central Campus**  
250 Avenida Los Angeles  
The Villages, FL 32162

**Lake Weir Campus**  
10495 SE Sunset Harbor Rd.  
Summerfield, FL 34491

**Everglades Recreation Center**  
5497 Marsh Bend Trail  
The Villages, FL 32163

# Where We Started

Hope Lutheran Church began in 1998 as a small congregation of faithful friends meeting for worship in local recreation centers. Since then, Hope has grown into a three-campus church community serving God's people throughout the communities in and around The Villages and Summerfield, FL. We have experienced phenomenal growth since that time and now have over 2,000 members, including our seasonal and associate members.

Through this rapid growth, we have maintained our DNA of being a caring church with plenty of activities and opportunities for groups with similar interests and needs. We make you feel right at home. We are reminded during each service that when we walk through the doors of Hope, we are family.

In 2014, Hope Lutheran Church acquired a tract of land near Wildwood, Florida. In 2019, when The Villages had expanded past this location, Hope exchanged this property with The Villages for a tract of land in a more desirable location. The Villages has now completed the road, the extension of the golf cart path to the property line, and connected utilities to the property.

In addition to all the activity and movement happening in the south, God was also at work in the north. In 2018, St. Johns Lutheran asked to be a full part of Hope Lutheran. Through the growing connections between all campuses, more than 60 volunteers serve consistently at the Hope Lake Weir Campus Food Pantry. Because the campus is located outside the borders of The Villages, Hope now has the ability to serve in ways prohibited by The Villages, **Making Abundant Life Known** through the feeding ministry and local partnerships.

## New Ministry Initiatives for 2023

While our Making Abundant Life Known capital campaign projects look toward our long-term shared vision for Hope Lutheran Church, our Annual Ministry Stewardship Plan supports the ongoing day-to-day work of knowing Christ and making Christ known. During 2023, we have two new key ministry initiatives we will focus on. We need an additional \$225,550, an 8.3% increase, in 2023 to support these new efforts.

**INITIATIVE NO. 1 - ABUNDANT FELLOWSHIP:** We are known as a welcoming church – real, honest, and sincere welcome. We are also three campuses. It is our goal for 2023 to develop events that will serve to strengthen and unite us as One Church – Three Campuses. This will include additional fellowship around worship times and special events.

**INITIATIVE NO. 2 - ABUNDANT DISCIPLESHIP:** We will work in 2023 to expand our educational opportunities for both online and in-person offerings. Through these opportunities, the people of Hope Lutheran Church will grow in evangelism and discipleship for making Christ and making Christ known.

### Council Members

Pastor Jon-Marc MacLean  
Pastor Rani Abdulmasih  
Pastor Bruce Dillman  
Kent Hamdorf, *President*  
David Redding, *Vice President*  
Gary Hill, *Treasurer*  
Pam Fenn, *Secretary*  
Kathy Beekman  
Cathy Daley  
Kristina Giffin  
Rolf Moulton  
David Withers

### Capital Campaign Steering Committee

Len & Virginia Robertson  
*General Chairs*  
Mary Jo Vitale MacLean  
*Information Chair*  
Linda Murphy  
*Inspiration Chair*  
John and Jo Villyard  
*Response Chairs*  
Gloria Johnson  
*Events Chair*  
Pat O'Dell  
*Lead Gifts Chair*

### Hope South Campus Building Strategic Planning Committee

Bob O'Dell  
*Executive Team Chair*  
Karen Barnes  
*Financial Chair*  
Len Robertson  
*Growth/Program Chair*  
Pat O'Dell  
*Fund Development Chair*  
Dale Fiet  
*Design & Construction Chair*

***"We have been practicing what it means to be one church and three campuses through different programs and ministries. This campaign is how our work to establish us as one church will be lived out."* – PASTOR BRUCE DILLMAN**

Concurrent with our Hope South Campus investment, we will also be making improvements to Hope Central Campus and Hope Lake Weir Campus.

## Hope Central Campus Projects

The projects at Hope Central Campus include painting the exterior of the church, sealing the stained-glass window located behind the chancel, replacing seats on chairs in Fellowship Hall which are beginning to peel from wear and tear, and removal of curbing in the parking lot and replacing with parking bollards. This should prevent people from tripping over the curbing while continuing to prevent cars from driving forward into the building.

## Hope Lake Weir Campus Projects

The projects at Hope Lake Weir Campus include replacing the air conditioning system, constructing a pavilion, and creating a labyrinth, rock garden, butterfly garden, and fire pit.

## Hope South Campus Project

The Hope South Campus Building Project consists of two distinct phases envisioned to work in parallel. These phases are the Activity Center and the Main Building Complex.

### ACTIVITY CENTER:

One of the major components of the Hope South Campus Building Project is the **Activity Center** which is a permanent multi-purpose building establishing a visible presence for Hope Lutheran Church on the picturesque narrow northern end of our southern site. Our ministries in the southern Villages have primarily been in the form of worship, due to our lack of gathering space throughout the week. The Activity Center is a place to expand the mission of the church on days other than Sunday and a place for Hope Lutheran Church to expand its many ministries. This expansion may come in the form of new ministries ; it also can come through the expansion of current ministries.

The recently completed **Feasibility Study** provided Congregation feedback on the current Hope South Campus Building Program. The Activity Center, as presented during the study, was seen as too small and not innovative enough. The *Hope Strategic Planning Committee* took this feedback and expanded the Activity Center to accommodate 50 people in meetings, a dedicated counseling area, a dedicated refreshment area, a dedicated area for a receptionist, an additional restroom and additional storage. This increased the size to 2,036 sf and the construction cost to \$500,000. These modifications resulted in redesigning the foyer and front entry and moving the porch to the rear of the building and increased the size to 811 sf.

The cost estimates of the funds required to design, construct, and furnish the Activity Center including the support services such as utilities, parking area and access road, site drainage and minimal landscaping to make the Activity Center a fully functional facility is estimated at \$950,000. Of this amount, \$400,000 is being provided through funds already on hand.

### MAIN BUILDING COMPLEX:

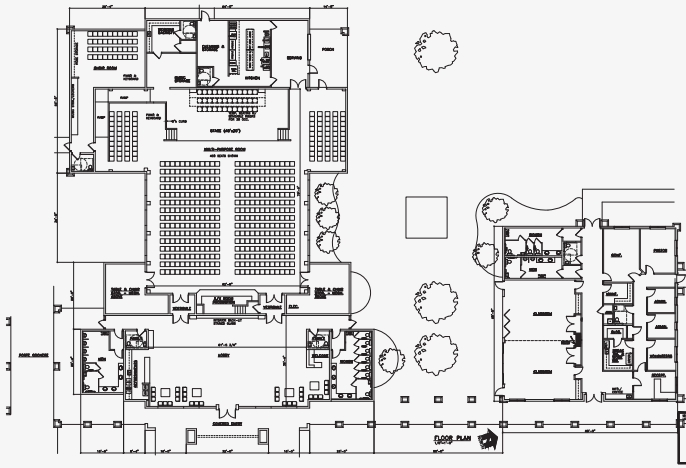
The **Main Building Complex** consists of the Worship Center, Administration & Education Center, Courtyard, and Bell Tower. The Worship Center will have the look and feel of a church/sanctuary structure in appearance with the flexibility to use the Worship Center for many functions. This multipurpose space will perform the two major functions of worship and fellowship. Fellowship may take the form of a structured meeting or lecture, education, entertainment, or the sharing of a meal.

The space will be a fully accessible one-level area with an elevated stage on one side. Seating will be movable chairs and tables depending on the function. With this flexibility, the Worship Center can be used every day of the week which makes it more cost-efficient. The proposed seating of 450 was determined, in part, based on several factors, including projected future attendance, use for functions and multiple church services. There will also be a Bell Tower structure near the Worship Center.

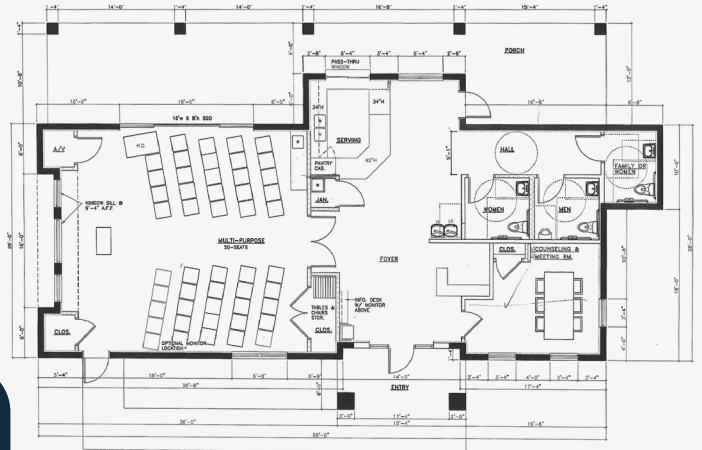
The estimated cost is \$5 million for the buildings with a total project cost of \$8,050,000. The additional \$3,050,000 cost includes site development costs, parking, landscaping, audiovisual systems, furniture/fixtures, and soft costs such as architectural/engineering fees, permit fees, legal fees, and other administrative costs.



## Worship Center



## Activity Center



## Summary of Cost

### Activity Center

Facility	\$500,000
Infrastructure/furnishings	\$450,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$950,000</b>

### Main Building Complex

Worship Center	\$3,000,000
Administrative Building	\$2,000,000
Infrastructure/Furnishings/ Parking/courtyard/landscape	\$3,050,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,050,000</b>

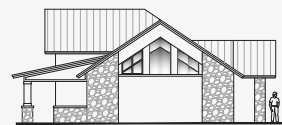
**TOTAL \$9 MILLION**



NORTH ELEVATION



SOUTH ELEVATION



EAST ELEVATION



WEST ELEVATION

Depending on the success of our capital campaign, the council may recommend to the congregation that the Administration and Education Building and Courtyard be delayed until a subsequent campaign. Our campaign goal is set at \$5.5 million with a Challenge Goal to raise \$9 million.

# Making Abundant Life Known Campaign Goal \$5.5 Million

We invite you to prayerfully consider how God is calling you to provide a **Making Abundant Life Known** gift that will ensure that the commitments of past generations of the Hope family will live on into the future to provide genuine welcome, Spirit-filled worship, generational faith formation, and outreach with dignity.

Through this bold and exciting **Making Abundant Life Known Campaign**, we seek to secure a total of \$5.5 million to \$9 million in gifts and pledges. Your generosity will expand our ability to know Christ and make Christ known throughout The Villages.

## What it Will Take to Achieve Our Goal Together

To fully attain our goal of \$5.5 million or more the following gifts in the quantities listed will need to be received by Hope Lutheran Church community members:

### BASE GOAL \$5.5 MILLION

# of Gifts	Value of Gift	Running Total
1	\$400,000	\$400,000
1	\$200,000	\$600,000
1	\$150,000	\$750,000
2	\$100,000	\$950,000
4	\$75,000	\$1,250,000
8	\$50,000	\$1,650,000
12	\$30,000	\$2,010,000
24	\$18,000	\$2,442,000
60	\$12,000	\$3,162,000
80	\$7,500	\$3,762,000
100	\$6,000	\$4,362,000
100	\$4,500	\$4,812,000
125	\$3,600	\$5,262,000
100	\$1,800	\$5,442,000
97	\$600	\$5,500,200

### CHALLENGE GOAL \$9 MILLION

# of Gifts	Value of Gift	Running Total
1	\$500,000	\$500,000
1	\$400,000	\$900,000
2	\$250,000	\$1,400,000
3	\$150,000	\$1,850,000
6	\$100,000	\$2,450,000
10	\$75,000	\$3,200,000
14	\$50,000	\$3,900,000
20	\$30,000	\$4,500,000
32	\$18,000	\$5,076,000
75	\$12,000	\$5,976,000
90	\$7,500	\$6,651,000
138	\$6,000	\$7,479,000
150	\$4,500	\$8,154,000
176	\$3,600	\$8,787,600
102	\$1,800	\$8,971,200
48	\$600	\$9,000,000



## Calculating Your Gift

Over time, gifts make a significant difference. Should you wish to make a three-year pledge, the following may be helpful in calculating your gift to the **Making Abundant Life Known Campaign**:

AMOUNT PER WEEK	AMOUNT PER MONTH	AMOUNT PER YEAR	3-YEAR AMOUNT
\$961	\$4,166	\$50,000	\$150,000
\$641	\$2,778	\$33,333	\$100,000
\$512	\$2,222	\$26,667	\$80,000
\$384	\$1,667	\$20,000	\$60,000
\$256	\$1,111	\$13,333	\$40,000
\$192	\$833	\$10,000	\$30,000
\$160	\$694	\$8,333	\$25,000
\$128	\$555	\$6,666	\$20,000
\$96	\$416	\$5,000	\$15,000
\$64	\$277	\$3,333	\$10,000
\$32	\$138	\$1,667	\$5,000
\$23	\$100	\$1,200	\$3,600
\$12	\$50	\$600	\$1,800
\$6.50	\$28	\$336	\$1,000
\$3.85	\$17	\$200	\$600

Contributions to the **Making Abundant Life Known Campaign** may be committed in the form of a one, two, or three-year gift. Signed pledge statements, which indicate the amount people are intending to give over a three-year payment period, must be in hand so that construction financing can be arranged, and construction begin. Payments toward commitments will be gratefully received on a weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annual basis and on a beginning/ending schedule convenient to you.

## Best Ways to Make A Gift

Most people think about writing a check to make a gift or using their credit card if they are on a website. However, there are three methods of giving that can be far better than writing a check.

- 1 If you are age 70.5 years old or older and have a traditional IRA, you are eligible to make a contribution directly from that account to a charity and have it count as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). This will result in no income tax due to you as you won't be taking it as a distribution to you. So, you avoid income taxes, get to make a gift to charity, and have it count as your Required Minimum Distribution (this is a thing once you are 72). If you are 70.5 years old and have a traditional IRA this is almost always the best way to give. If you have a 401k or 403b, you can roll that over to an IRA and then use this gifting method.
- 2 If you have appreciated stock, mutual fund, or another asset you can gift it to the church and avoid capital gains taxes and get credit for a charitable gift. This could save you 10% or 15% in taxes, depending on your tax bracket. The tax savings make this a great way for some people to make a gift.
- 3 Making a regular gift every month from your checking account can allow many people to make a bigger gift than they ever thought possible. A gift of \$30 per month (\$1 per day) comes to a total gift of \$1,080 over a three-year period of time. A gift of \$100 per month is \$3,600.

*Everyone's situation is different. This campaign will be successful if everyone prayerfully determines the best way for them to make their best gift to the appeal. There is no one size fits all. Please pray about and discern how God is calling you to be involved.*

# Commonly Asked Questions

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## **Q: What am I being asked to do for the Making Abundant Life Known Campaign?**

**A:** We are asking that you fill out an intent card with a financial commitment. That commitment can be fulfilled through a one-time payment, over a three-year period, or on a timeframe in between. The more quickly we can reduce our debt load, the more quickly we free up resources for further ministry.

## **Q: When do my gift payments for the appeal begin?**

**A:** Unless you prefer a different timetable, the offering period begins April, 2023. The intent card has a place for you to indicate how and when you will fulfill your commitment.

## **Q: How long does the appeal last?**

**A:** The appeal will last for three years: through March, 2026. However, if you feel you can make a larger gift by extending the time, you are welcome to do so. You may also make a one-time gift or contribute over less than three years. The more quickly we can reduce our debt load, the more quickly we free up resources for further ministry.

## **Q: Is it possible to just make gifts to the appeal without making a specific commitment?**

**A:** Yes, but written responses, while never legally binding, give us an indication of what we can expect and permit us to plan for the future. Please fill out an intent card indicating how you will respond even if you do not make a commitment. The response from the congregation will be a compelling story as we prepare for even more impactful ministry.

## **Q: Will I be asked to give a specific amount?**

**A:** You will be asked to prayerfully consider an amount based on the gift chart to reach our goal. If every gift on the chart is fulfilled, we will exceed our goal.

## **Q: Why are we being asked to give to the annual ministry as well as the campaign at the same time?**

**A:** The Making Abundant Life Known Campaign is our response to caring for our facilities and positioning us for the future as our congregation grows and ministry changes. We will continue to provide our ongoing ministries to children, youth, families, and adults. We will continue to offer worship and pastoral care. These are all funded through the generosity of our members on an annual basis through our annual stewardship appeal and regular giving. The projects listed in this Making Abundant Life Known Campaign are above and beyond our regular and ongoing ministry and annual giving.

## **Q: Do all gifts to the campaign have to be cash?**

**A:** No. Gifts of property, appreciated stock, required minimum distributions from an IRA, mutual funds, cash value from insurance policies or policy loan proceeds, certificates of deposit (CDs), bonds, and annuities are just some of the ways we can give. For those who qualify, giving via a Required IRA Distribution may be the best way to contribute. All of these gifts may be subject to restrictions and limitations and each giver's circumstances are unique, so it is wise to consult your financial advisor or accountant.

**Note:** *Contact the Financial Secretary at the church office to make non-cash gifts. Important! Do not sell the asset yourself or you will be unable to avoid capital gains tax. If you are trying to capture a capital loss, you may want to sell the asset yourself. Please consult your tax advisor on the best approach for your own circumstances.*

## **Q: What is the advantage of giving appreciated stocks or property?**

**A:** You can avoid capital gains taxes and possibly also receive a tax deduction in the amount of the appreciated value.

## **Q: How do I make a gift of appreciated stock?**

**A:** Have your broker transfer shares from your account to the church. The church's broker will sell the stock and you will receive gift credit for the average market value on the day it is transferred. Contact the Financial Secretary at the church office for transfer information.

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