

Find Your Place

Hope Church Programs
and Opportunities

Christian Education | Music Groups | Fellowship Groups



HOPE CHURCH

2019-2020

Here's your open invitation to find your place at Hope Church! Whether for learning, worship, meditation, contributing your gifts, serving others, or finding support yourself, there's likely a program, events, or group you'll find meaningful. We offer opportunities for all ages and many interests.

Accessibility at Hope Church

Hope Church welcomes persons of all abilities to find a sense of belonging and opportunities for service within its midst. It is hoped that all will find ways in which they can fully participate in the life of Hope Church.

- Use the parking lot entrance to make use of nearby designated parking places. That entrance also has a door opener button.
- Coat racks are available at multiple levels.
- Ramps give access to the northeast and northwest entrances to the sanctuary, as well as to the chancel and choir loft.
- Wheelchairs are welcome at the ends of front pews, in the rear of the sanctuary, and at cut-outs midway down the aisles. Cushions are available for additional comfort in sanctuary seating. Wheelchairs for on-site use are available in the cloakroom just inside the parking lot entrance and in the hallway near the 10th Street entrance.
- The 11 a.m. Sunday morning service is broadcast live in the Chapel.
- While most activities are on the ground level, an elevator leads to the second floor of the Education Wing.
- To enhance hearing, the Sanctuary, Commons 1 and 2, and the Chapel are equipped with a T-Coil loop system. Alternative hearing devices for use in the sanctuary are available from ushers.
- Large-print bulletins and Bibles are available at sanctuary entrances.
- Men's, women's, and family-friendly, gender-neutral restrooms are all accessible.
- For everyone's safety, first aid kits are positioned throughout the building, and an automated external defibrillator (AED) is centrally located.

For Infants and Children

Nursery (Infants through 2 years old)

9:40 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Nursery

An environment of loving care is provided for infants during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. If care is needed during the church school hour, please follow instructions by the nursery to acquire assistance, or contact Jocelyn VanHeest prior to the sessions. Caring adults and youth are scheduled as caregivers, and volunteers are needed. Please contact Jocelyn if you are interested in volunteering.

Family Time Together (FTT)

This group is open to all Hope Church families with children of any age. The group meets periodically throughout the year for various events, which may include game night/day, pancake dinner and celebration (Shrove Tuesday), and other opportunities for families to spend time together and with one another. Look for specific dates, events, and times in bulletins and on the church website. A new Family Time Together Play Group will also be meeting a couple times a month, dates and times to be determined. Call or email Jocelyn VanHeest at jvanheest@hopechurchrca.org with questions or suggestions.

Church School (Preschool through 5th grade)

9:40 a.m.–10:40 a.m. Room 204

The children meet together to build a great foundation for their Christian faith. Children will begin each Sunday morning together for an exciting presentation of a Bible story, then divide into smaller groups by age to continue to learn about the story with age-appropriate activities and ways to connect the story to their lives. They grow together, making sound relationships with other children and their teachers as members of God's family.



Children In Worship

A walk-out program for ages three years through 5th grade during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. During worship, children are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary for "A Word with the Children." From there, Children In Worship leaders escort the children to the worship centers.

Ages 3 – 1st Grade Room 202

A parent may be asked to stay with young three-year-olds until the child is comfortable in the center and is ready for worship

2nd & 3rd grades Room 206

4th & 5th grades Room 208

4th and 5th graders remain in worship on Sundays when communion is served. At various times, younger children will return to worship for communion.

Children In Worship transforms ordinary time and space into sacred time and space. Our children enter sacred time to experience and praise God by being with God, talking with God, listening to God, and hearing the stories of God. The special time and space of Children in Worship helps the children bring the stories of God's action in the past and promises for the future into their present experience as they wonder, respond in their own way to the story, and pray together in community.

If you have any questions about the children's opportunities, including accommodations for accessibility, contact Jocelyn VanHeest, Children's Ministry Director.

For Youth

Nurture faith. Build character. Create community. Engage in service.

Fish Club (Middle School)

For 6th, 7th, and 8th graders of Hope Church and their friends, Fish Club is a youth group experience. Fish Club seeks to provide a close



Christian community of friends for our middle school students, while forming relationships with adult sponsors in the church. A variety of programming is offered to take a close look at ourselves, our faith, and our world. Service projects are an important part of the group's community ministry as well. Fundraisers enable us to plan some very special events, like retreats and a trip to the Appalachian Trail. All middle school youth are welcome, typically Sunday mornings or evenings. See schedule information on the church website. Contact Pastor Beth Carroll, Assistant Pastor of Discipleship, at bcarroll@hopechurchrc.org with any questions or needs for accommodations for accessibility.

High Hopes (High School)

A youth group for 9th through 12th graders, High Hopes offers a variety of social, service, and learning opportunities throughout the year.



The activities are designed to build and strengthen relationships among the youth and sponsors as part of a community of faith. There will also be fundraising for a service trip planned for the summer and service work right here in our community. All high school youth are welcome, typically Sunday mornings or evenings. See schedule information on the church website. Contact Pastor Beth Carroll, Assistant Pastor of Discipleship, at bcarroll@hopechurchrc.org with any questions or needs for accommodations for accessibility.

6th - 8th Grade: G.I.F.T. Class
2nd & 4th Sundays at 9:40 AM
Youth Room 1

G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together) Class is a focused time for participants to explore faith in God and their connection to the church and faith. The group often visits other places of worship and ministry. Some might call G.I.F.T. a “confirmation class,” but this is a bit different. Some participants will be led to make profession of faith in Christ at Hope Church, but it’s not required; each person will sort through that step when the time comes. The broader idea of G.I.F.T. is that it is a unique experience at an important age to deal with issues of faith and life as a part of the church. This class is led by Pastor Gordon Wiersma.

9th - 12th Grade: High Hopes “Unshowered”
2nd & 4th Sundays at 9:40 AM
Youth Room 2

This group meets with Pastor Jill Russell and Pastor Beth Carroll for Bible study, fellowship, and prayer. This four-year curriculum is designed to lead each student deeper into their faith. Every other year we look to sustain a lifelong commitment to study of God’s Word (Bible study). In alternating years we focus on thinking about their faith (theology) and exploring how to live their faith in very practical terms (Christian practices). The approach is interactive and relational. Journal writing, singing together, praying for one another, and study are all woven together in this one-hour gathering that meets September through May. All 9th through 12th grade students are welcome, showered or not!

Music in Worship

Chancel Choir (High school - Adults)

Brian Carder, Director

Rehearsals: Sundays, 9:40 a.m.

1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month, 7:30 p.m.

The Chancel Choir sings weekly at the 11:00 a.m. worship service and provides leadership with liturgical songs and anthems. We love to sing and enjoy the art of making music together. Sopranos, Altos, Tenors and Basses—come join our worship choir! For more information, contact Brian at BCarder@hopechurchrca.org.

Carillon Handbell Choir (High school - Adults)

Rhonda Edgington, Director

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 6:15 - 7 p.m.

If you love music, have some basic note reading skills, and enjoy making music with others, the Carillon Choir may be just the thing for you. Music is rehearsed to be used approximately monthly in worship services. New members are always welcome. If you have note reading experience, and cannot commit to being a regular member, but would be interested in being on our sub list (you are contacted about specific dates, to fill in at rehearsals and on Sundays, for members who will be out), this is also an opportunity to be involved. For more information, contact Rhonda at RhondaBSE@gmail.com.

Children's Choirs

Children's choirs gather seasonally: Advent and Christmas, Palm Sunday and Eastertide. Watch for additional announcements in newsletters and bulletins regarding startup times.

Instrumental

Hope Church values the talents and skills of its members and friends. We encourage instrumentalists to accompany choirs, play for worship services (11 a.m. or Early Worship), and assist in accompanying groups and mid-week events. Do you play guitar? There's a group for you! Do you play a wind, brass, or string instrument? We also need piano accompanists for special events. Please join us in making great music for worship by volunteering. For more information, contact Brian at bcarder@hopechurchrca.org.

Spiritual Formation

To be a light to the world and to help you experience a rich, more spiritually engaged life, Hope Church provides a number of opportunities for discipleship and spiritual care. With a focus on creating spaces that are intergenerational, we offer Bible studies, retreats, and Pub Theology on Wednesday nights. Check your bulletin for announcements regarding event descriptions and days and times.

Pub Theology

Wednesdays, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. An off-shoot of our young adult programming, Pub Theology usually meets at Hops on 8th Street. This theologically and generationally diverse group meets over snacks to discuss how the issues of the world connect with our lives, with God, and each other. All ages, backgrounds, and beliefs are welcome. Email Pastor Beth for details or join our Facebook group, www.facebook.com/groups/hopepubtheology/.



Additional Opportunities for Fellowship and Learning

BRIM Bunch takes its name from the old decaffeinated coffee brand. This group began as a couples club many years ago and is now a gathering of our retired members. Meetings typically begin over dinner and include a program. For more information contact the office!

Caring for Creation explores the intersection of faith and environmental care, with an emphasis on direct experience of nature as an essential component of spiritual growth, and on lifestyle critique as a spiritual discipline. To get involved, contact the office!

Diners' Club offers an opportunity for adults of all ages to socialize, have fun, be casual, build relationships, and eat. Groups meet three times per year (October, January, April) for a potluck style dinner at the home of the hosting member. Contact the Hope Church Office for more information or to sign up.

Hope Church Readers meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in Commons 2 for a monthly book discussion. A member of the group leads the discussion while other members provide the refreshments and hospitality for the meeting. The reading list for the coming program year is created by member suggestions each Spring. For more information, contact Lauren Heyboer at (616) 786-0436.

Men's Breakfast meets faithfully at 6:15 a.m. sharp every Wednesday. Each morning includes fellowship over breakfast and then a topical study with interactive discussion. Long-term relationships of support and caring grow out of this group. All men are welcome. For more information, please contact David Hawley at (616) 915-6188.

REST (Relax, Empathy, Share, Thanksgiving) Caregiver Support Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 11 a.m. and is open to anyone in need of resources or a time of sharing and friendship. If you have any questions, contact Ginger Clark RN, Parish Nurse at (616) 414-2983 or gclark@hopechurchrca.org.

Women's Circles meet either the first or second Wednesday of each month. The groups mostly meet in people's homes for a time of fellowship, refreshments, and Bible study. To find out more about the Women's Ministry, contact the Hope Church office.

Support for Accessibility

The Accessibility Ministry seeks to support all members, both with accessibility within the facility and in their overall health and wellness. If you have or are aware of needs that aren't met, contact any member of the ministry or Becky Derrick, chair, at (616) 405 9978 or kbderrick@comcast.net.

Equipment for Off-Site Use

The Accessibility Ministry maintains an inventory of equipment that can be borrowed for short- or long-term use at home or care facilities. Contact the church office or Ginger Clark, Parish Nurse, at (616) 392-7947 ext. 108 or at gclark@hopechurchrca.org.

Wheelchairs
Knee scooters
Walkers

Canes and crutches
ETAC sit-to-stand
Shower chairs/benches

Raised toilet seats
Bed rails
Motorized wheelchair
Ortho boots
Sitz bath
Seat cushions

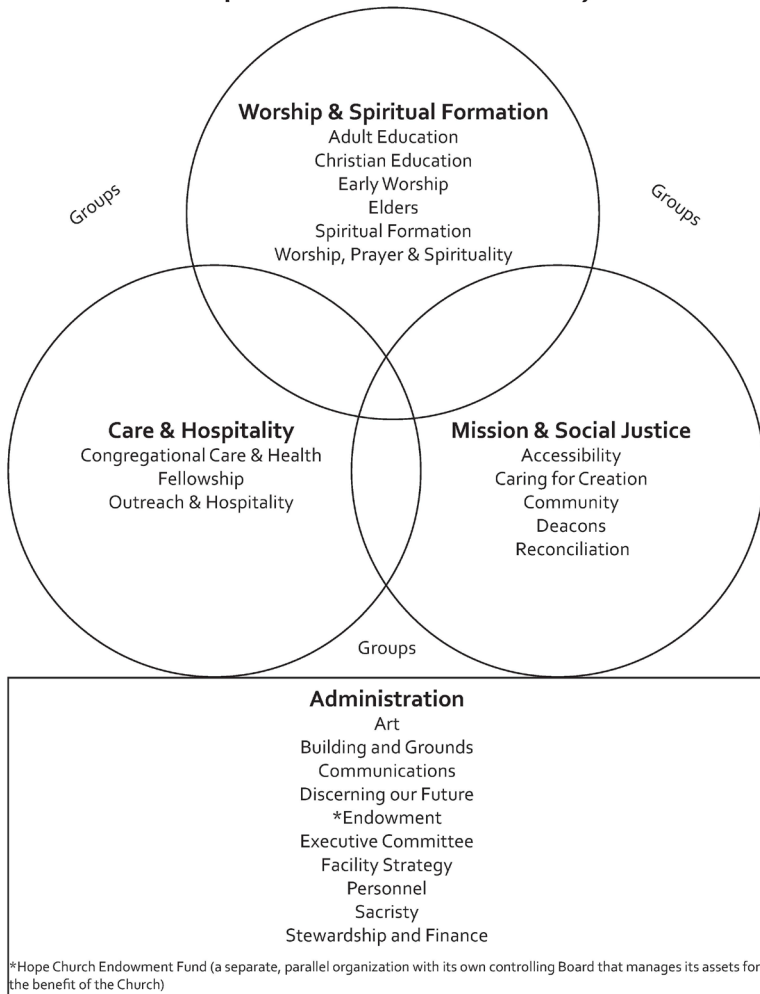


Transportation and at-Home Services

Any of these services can help those who can't easily get to our building stay connected. Contact the church office for schedules or to make arrangements or requests.

- Bus service from and to local care facilities is available for Sunday morning worship and special events, like congregational meetings and Brim Bunch.
- The 11 a.m. Sunday morning services are broadcast live on WHTC 1450 AM and as live stream on whtc.com (just click on the "Listen Now" button).
- Sermons are available in either audio or text form on the Hope Church website, hopechurchca.org.
- Weekly church bulletins, either regular print or large print, can be mailed to your home.
- In-home communion is served two times each year.
- Pastors, the Parish Nurse, and members of the Congregational Care Ministry make calls.
- Coffee gatherings are held on Tuesday mornings at local care facilities.
- Congregational Care volunteer system in place to help with occasional meals and transportation.

Hope Church in Ministry



CONSISTORY

As of 5/10/18

Ministries and Committees

WORSHIP & SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Adult Education plans and coordinates educational opportunities for adults intended for spiritual formation through biblical study and critical examination of cultural, social, and moral issues from a Christian perspective.

Christian Education helps Hope Church members and friends to grow and deepen their faith, as we all seek to live as disciples of Jesus Christ. They seek to celebrate Hope's diversity, to become even more faithful to the vision of Jesus, and to assist the church in becoming a mission center in our community and world.

Early Worship plans the collaboratively led worship services held on Sunday morning in the Chapel at 8:30 a.m. Early Worship values interactive engagement with the scripture and weekly celebration of Communion.

Spiritual Formation works with the Assistant Pastor of Discipleship to support opportunities for members across the generations to grow in their faith together. Their current focus is a new initiative called Growing Young, which is looking at ways to strengthen intergenerational relationships with a priority on connecting with young adults.

Worship focuses on creating and maintaining a worshipful environment for Hope Church, attending to aesthetic, musical, liturgical, spiritual, and theological aspects of worship.

CARE & HOSPITALITY

Congregational Care & Health works with the pastoral staff to minister to both the needs and joys of the Hope Church family to nurture a caring, loving community of faith. They invite the whole congregation to participate in sharing loving care and encouragement with one another to build up the body of Christ, through coordinating prayer, visits, transportation, and meals. Recognizing that we are stewards of our own good health, and realizing the importance of the connection of physical, emotional, relational, and spiritual wellness, they seek to involve the members of Hope Church in a healing ministry to each other and the community.

Fellowship provides opportunities for fellowship among the members and friends of Hope Church through an assortment of intergenerational events of interest to all members.

Outreach & Hospitality reaches out to visitors and non-members in the Holland community and area to encourage their participation and membership in Hope Church, and works within Hope Church to foster a sense of warmth, openness, and hospitality that will enrich the life of the

church and promotes interaction between members and visitors. The Funeral Reception Group is a sub-group of this Ministry.

MISSION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Caring for Creation explores the intersection of faith and environmental care, with an emphasis on direct experience of nature as an essential component of spiritual growth, and on lifestyle critique as a spiritual discipline.

Community supports social, economic, and environmental justice work undertaken by Hope Church members and through support of and partnership with a number of local organizations to meet needs for food, health, housing, education, and a sustaining environment.

Disability Concerns advocates for welcoming all people to worship, regardless of physical, mental, or developmental ability, and promoting a spirit of community without boundaries, to share Christ's love in the world and create an environment where "everybody belongs and everybody serves."

Reconciliation focuses on implementing Hope Church's commitment to the Belhar Confession, which calls us to unity, reconciliation, and justice. They offer support and resources within Hope Church engaging in diversity and inclusivity efforts, discern advocacy for community issues, and build relationships with community organizations with a shared mission.

ADMINISTRATION

Art cares for and promotes the visual arts at Hope Church, caring for the existing collection of historical artifacts and artwork and arranging for exhibits of our own or from external artists or organizations.

Building & Grounds is responsible for the care and maintenance of the physical facilities of Hope Church. They keep the physical plant functioning smoothly so that all the other groups can function with the greatest efficiency, taking seriously the commitment to be good stewards of our church resources.

Communications works to effectively share Hope Church's mission and invite people to engage in the life of our church as they develop and guide the implementation of a cohesive, strategic approach to communications.

Discerning Our Future supports Consistory in thinking strategically about the ministry of Hope Church. They provide a place for discernment about the mission and vision for the congregation and provides opportunities for the leadership of the church to assess its health and vitality.

Endowment oversees and manages the assets of the Fund to provide funds as a source of income and/or for some future need for Hope Church. The Fund is a separate but parallel organization to the Church with its own Board as its controlling body. The Board is elected by the members of the Endowment Fund, such membership being the same as membership of Hope Church.

Executive serves as a planning, advisory, and administrative body for the Consistory regarding agenda and process.

Facility Strategy attends to the long-term oversight of the facility, leading to a strategy for both priorities and funding and taking into account long-term and proactive maintenance, preservation of our historic sanctuary and exterior, and ongoing refurbishing and revitalization to keep the facility in step with our needs as a community.

Personnel is responsible to the consistory for all decisions related to staffing issues and acts as liaison between the congregation and ordained and non-ordained staff members.

Sacristy assists in caring for the worship environment in the sanctuary including paraments, candles, and communion ware as well as readying the space each week for worship.

Stewardship & Finance seeks to cultivate the outlook and action of true stewards in the congregation through the generous sharing of God-given time, talents, and possessions for service to others. Oversees the annual church budget, financial statements, and periodic audits to assure compliance with policies and procedures.

Consistory is the governing body of the church: **Elders** faithfully study God's Word, governing the household of faith, encouraging spiritual growth, maintaining loving discipline, and providing for the proclamation of the Gospel and the celebration of the sacraments. **Deacons** manifest Christ's love and care, gathering and distributing the offerings of God's people, visiting and comforting the distressed, ministering to the poor and needy, and furthering God's reign of justice and peace.

HOPE CHURCH
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office@hopechurchrca.org
HopeChurchRCA.org



A proud member
of Room for All