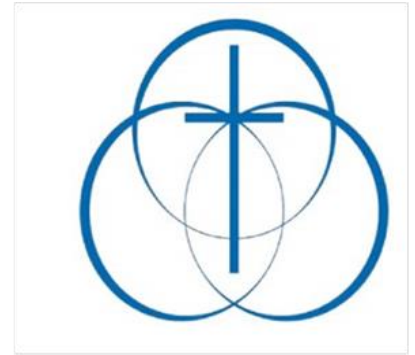


# Oneco Hope News

## Oneco Hope Global Methodist Church

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## July 2023

Greetings, Church! And God bless you.

If you've been around church for a while, you've surely heard of them: The M and M sisters. They are found in the Scripture in numerous places. Perhaps they are best known for a particular sisterly spat they had on a day when Jesus came to town. It appears that they had some previous knowledge of Jesus, because when Jesus came into their home, they both stopped everything and went into action, big time. And then came the drama!

Both sisters genuinely wanted to minister to Jesus. Both tried hard. Only one succeeded. Why? Because to truly please Jesus, we must give Him that which He actually desires, not that which we think He should desire. Both sisters thought they had it right. Only one did. Here's the famous encounter. (Luke 10:38-42)

*"As Jesus and the disciples continued on their way to Jerusalem, they came to a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home. Her sister, Mary, sat at the Lord's feet, listening to what He taught. But Martha was distracted by the big dinner she was preparing. She came to Jesus and said, 'Lord, doesn't it seem unfair to You that my sister just sits here while I do all the work? Tell her to come and help me.' But the Lord said to her, 'My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details! There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her.'" (Lk. 10:38-42)*

Both the sisters had the best of intentions. But Mary understood that as valuable as serving is, Jesus is more concerned that we sit at His feet: listening, praying, seeking, and worshipping. Martha was doing the good thing; Mary was doing the great thing.

As we go forward as Oneco Hope Global Methodist Church, I pray that we will prioritize sitting at Jesus' feet and do the great thing. This can be done one-on-one with Jesus as well as in small groups with Jesus. Jesus even said, *"If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them."* (Matt. 18:19-20 NLT) So, I want to encourage all of us to intentionally and perhaps sacrificially, be a part of a Mary-like, small-group ministry. Some are available now, and others in September.

1. Wesleyan Discipleship: 9-11AM on Wednesday mornings in our Fellowship Hall. (Available in September)
2. Sunday School: 10:15 – 11:15 AM on Sunday mornings in the He-brews Room. Teacher: Gary Clark. (Available now.)
3. Our ZOOM/Internet Prayer Meeting: 6:30-7:30PM on Wednesday evenings (Available now.)
4. A new, pastor-led, in-person, one hour prayer meeting at our church facility on Monday mornings (time to be announced.) (Available in September)
5. Perhaps, some of you would like to create a one hour, 10–12-person, weekly Bible Study/prayer event. If so, please let me know.

My brothers and sisters in Christ, if we are to grow in God's sight as His church; if we are to please Jesus and give Him what He desires, may I ask each of us to seriously and prayerfully consider joining one or more of these small group opportunities where we can sit at Jesus' feet together?

If you have questions about any of these opportunities, please ask me, Pastor Gene (386-546-2733), or our Lay Leader, Janet Saver (941-812-5352).

God bless you, Church.

He is worth it!!!

Pastor Gene

Dear Church Family,

Praise God we are Oneco Hope Global Methodist Church! Our mission is 'To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ who Worship Passionately, Love Extravagantly and Witness Boldly'. I'm ready to do that, are you? We used to be called shouting Methodists. Have we lost our passion in worship? Do you love the 'Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength'? This is the first and greatest commandment, and the second is like unto it, 'Love your neighbor as yourself'. Are you His witness in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth? In all three parts of our mission statement, as disciples, and in making disciples, we have room to grow. God has given us a new beginning as He has opened the door for us to be Oneco Hope. Let's walk through it and through prayer and the power of the Holy Spirit we can! Our vision is to be a Church that Looks, Acts, and Thinks like Jesus. Father, we pray to be that church.

Are you hungry? Bring your worship every Sunday, stay for Sunday School, listen to Pastor's vlogs(on Facebook or our website: onecohope.com), follow the daily scripture reading guide, join us for prayer on Wednesday nights on zoom, join our Discipleship Class beginning again in September, and volunteer to serve. As disciples, and in making disciples, JD Watt said, "Hunger is the secret to staying filled."

Holy Spirit come and fill us, in Jesus name, I pray.

Bless you all,

Janet Saver 941-812-5352

Lay Leader

*Our Avenue941  
students hard at  
work.*



*Avenue 941 student,  
Brian, proudly  
showing off his  
graduation  
certificates.*



### IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME / TITLE	TELEPHONE
Dr. Gene Maddox, Pastor	386-546-2733
Janet Saver, Lay Leader	941-812-5352
Carolyn Boyle, Lay Visitation/Prayer Chain	941-751-3907
Greg Rohr, Music Worship	941-321-4413
Don Bensen, Administrative Council Chairman	941-756-0211
Church Office (Mon.-Tues.-Thurs)	941-755-5943

### Birthdays

01	John Hicks Mary Friele
04	Joan Cook Janet Hicks
05	Cherry Ann Norman Cathy Boyd
06	Mary Jackson Mary Wilson
08	Jack Puckett Jerry Markle
09	Hal Yates
10	Irene Basch Gene Hany
14	Craig Ripley
15	Linda Behrens Wayne Campbell
20	James Byrington Pamela Wall
22	Nancy Hammond Matthew Walker
24	Janet Swanson
30	Rhonda Valentine
31	Philip Basch

### Anniversaries

03	Kathryn & Homer Hancock
06	Marilyn & Jim Kunselman
07	Debra & Lanny Lentz
12	Judy & Gary Davis
16	Mary & Jerry Markle
	Leslie & Gene Maddox
25	Rhonda & Leroy Valetine



## **Dos Iglesias, Un Corazón News About Our Sister Church In Cuba**

For those of you who question whether God is still in the miracle business, well look no further than this article for proof that he is!

For those who headed up north before May, the COVID travel restrictions in Cuba were finally lifted. After three long years of waiting, we finally set foot on Cuban soil. God kept directing our steps before and during the trip, and we experienced unexplainable things nothing short of miracles. During the trip we were able to provide some critically needed items to our sister church including over-the-counter medications, electronics equipment, Bibles for adults and children, face paint for their drama ministry, reading glasses, money, and so much more! Harriet Thompson even took a violin, and she enjoys regular video calls to hear the progress of the violin students. More than any of the things our church could have sent, the fact that we were willing to come meant the most to them. We were finally able to meet face-to-face our brothers and sisters we'd been talking to and texting with all these years. Harriet and I are very grateful to Oneco Hope for helping offset the cost of our trip and for providing some of the materials to take. What an honor it was to live amongst and worship with our sister church! We have so much to learn from them, and we can't wait to get back down there.

Little did we know, God had more in store. We flew to and from Cuba with the director of the Sister Church program. He told me about a way we might be able to get prescription medications down to our sister church. Upon our return, I presented him with a list of medications, and he was able to get them all! God was not done though, as he provided a way to get them there and the right people in the right places to receive them. Shipping to Cuba and ensuring receipt of the item is challenging, so we were left in awe of God's timing. Better yet, before I could even bring it to the church for reimbursement, God provided donors outside of our church walls to cover the cost! I have received multiple messages and pictures of the recipients of blood pressure and diabetes medications who are so incredibly grateful to God and Oneco for making this happen.

There is one very special surprise in the works that I must wait to share, but we've also possibly found a way to get prescription glasses made with a Cuban prescription. This is an answer to many years of prayer. I have two very difficult prescriptions in my possession and have been selling plants by donation only to obtain funds. We have enough to get at least one pair made and shipped and are well on our way to having the second pair fully covered. Praise be to God! Next week I will order the first pair. Can I ask a favor? Please pray that this process goes smoothly from door to door.

Finally, I'd like to invite you to get to know our sister church. With the postal service now shipping to Cuba again, I'm working on new opportunities for our members and their members to connect.

Feel free to email me at [amanda.jesse@goporcupine.com](mailto:amanda.jesse@goporcupine.com) if you'd like to be plugged in to the Cuba ministry. There are many ways to serve!

¡Dios te bendiga!

-Amanda Lombardi



School starts August 10<sup>th</sup>, this year, so we are gearing up to donate school supplies to Oneco Elementary. Below are the school supplies and clothing items needed:

- Poly 2 Pocket Folders with 3 Hole Fasteners
- Glue/Glue Sticks
- Composition Books
- Dry Erase Markers
- 1-Subject Notebooks
- Crayons (24 count)
- Scissors
- Colored Markers
- Back Packs
- Uniforms-Blue/Black jeans or sorts
- Uniform Shirts-Red, Navy, Dark Green, White (No light blue)
- Boys/Girls Underwear and socks

**Florida back to school tax-free holiday begins on July 24<sup>th</sup> and ends on August 6<sup>th</sup>.  
Monetary donation will be accepted as well.**

**Notice:** As we say so long to our friend, Jane Parks, we also send our thoughts and prayers with her as she relocates To be with her family in Kansas. I know she would love to hear from us so please make a note of her new address and telephone number: 1288 SW Oakley Avenue, Topeka KS 66604; her new telephone number is 785-286-7983.

HAPPY 40TH ANNIVERSARY PASTOR GENE AND LESLIE!

Pastor Gene and Leslie will celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in a big way in Jan 2024.

They will be traveling to the Holy Land with a group of pastors. What a great experience for them!

The best part, for all of us, will be when they return and Pastor Gene will offer this congregation a chance to travel as a group to take the tour he and Leslie took. Watch for more details!

