

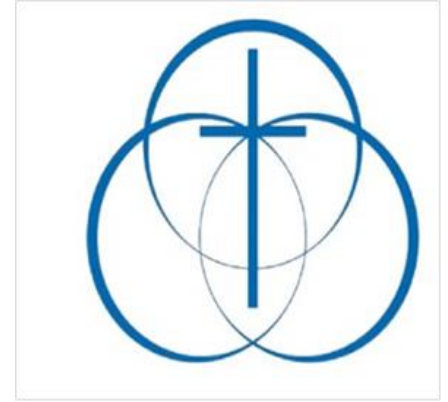
Oneco Hope News

Oneco Hope Global Methodist Church

2112 53rd Avenue E., Bradenton, FL 34203

Email: onecohope@gmail.com – Website: www.onecohope.com

Telephone: 941-755-5943



December 2023

Christmas Blessings

Dear Family,

Welcome to Advent.

One of the great gifts which the early church has passed down to us is the “Church Year.” Here, we are both reminded and enabled to celebrate the great works of God, annually. The Church Year begins with Advent, which is the four weeks before Christmas, and ends on Christmas Eve. Advent focuses on preparation for the coming of Messiah: “not only the coming of the Christ-child at Christmas, but also Jesus’ return, making Advent a time for devout and joyful preparation and expectation.”

Jesus’ first coming, His incarnation (God becoming flesh) by way of a young virgin girl, is so very, incomprehensible. That God should love us so much wherein He became one of us, even from the point of becoming a zygote within Mary, should stop us dead in our tracks and cause us to fall on our faces in worship. In Jesus Christ, God truly became Emmanuel, God with us. Add to that, the ultimate reason why He came, which was to die and rise for us, and you have a love that is only possible with the Lord God Almighty! The songwriter stated it so well when he wrote,

“You came from heaven to earth to show the way.
From the earth to the Cross our debt to pay.
From the Cross to the Grave, from the grave to the skies.”

And if that is not enough, we have our Lord’s Second Coming – His return to earth to take us home forever, judge the world, and establish us in the New Jerusalem in the New Heaven and the New Earth! Glory to God, this is quite a Salvation!

So then, let us remember, prepare, celebrate, and worship. For Christ has come! And Christ is coming!

May God bless you all,
Pastor Gene

OUR VERY OWN CHRISTMAS TREE ANGELS!!

Mon-Fri 2:00PM-8:00PM Sat. 11:00AM-8PM



Dear Church Family,

With thankful hearts we enter into Advent and await the birth of Jesus. A time of great expectation but also reflection. We ask the Holy Spirit to prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of Jesus and also the Second Coming of Christ. We reflect on what God has done for us. I personally have entered into this Advent season with such a grateful heart for God's work in our church and in my life personally. I pray that each one of you will reflect on the year we are leaving behind and prepare for the year ahead!

May we truly live in His presence and surrender to the leading of the Holy Spirit each day.

Our Mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly. May it be so Lord.

As your Lay Leader I am available to you for any concerns or needs you may have. I would love to pray with you. I am so thankful for each one of you. God is on the move and the joy of the Lord is ours.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come. Let Earth receive her King! Merry Christmas!

In His Love,
Janet Saver, Lay Leader

Christmas Food Baskets Needed for Local Families

Once again, we would like to bless the families in need at our Oneco Elementary School and in our church. The items we will need are listed here: Mashed potatoes, stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, cake/brownie/cookie mix, canned sweet potatoes, canned gravy or dry gravy mix, cornbread mix, cans of corn/green beans/peas, etc., hot chocolate mix.

The deadline to donate the above items will be Sunday, December 17th. To donate, bring food and place in the box marked Christmas in the back of the Sanctuary or in the Fellowship Hall. We will also need cash donations to help buy turkeys, hams, fresh milk, eggs, and margarine. To make a donation, make checks payable to Oneco Hope GMC and in the memo section note 'Christmas Baskets.'

BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND

As we begin a new year, please join Carolyn Boyle on Sunday mornings at 10:15 in the Joshua room for what she is calling *Scripture, Meditation, & Prayer Journaling*. This is a long-term class in learning how to read scripture pertaining to specific topics, meditating on the scripture as it pertains to the topic, and then prayerfully journaling to God regarding what He has revealed to you. Classes will begin on Sunday, January 7th. Bring yourself, your bible and an empty book (Ollie's has them!) you can use for journaling. This class is for anyone who has ever read scripture and then thought, "Huh?" This class is for those who want to approach scripture in a different way. This class is for everyone who wants to listen for God's voice of understanding. Please email Carolyn Boyle (cb Boyle34203@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Our Mission

To make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.

Our Vision

A church that looks, acts, and thinks like Jesus.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME / TITLE	TELEPHONE
Dr. Gene Maddox, Pastor	386-546-2733
Janet Saver, Lay Leader	941-812-5352
Carolyn Boyle, Lay Visitation	941-751-3907
Greg Rohr, Music Worship	941-321-4413
Church Office (Mon.-Tues.-Thur.)	941-755-5943

Family Life Dinners have resumed! Come join us for good food, great fellowship, grand music, grateful praises, and Godly prayer!! Wednesdays a 5PM-6PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Birthdays

04	Tennison Hubbard
05	Caleb Green
08	Wesley L. George
09	Beverly Langdon
14	Nadene Wish
14	Jacob Caruso
15	Rafael Abreu
16	Robert Green
16	Sue Steverson
17	Renee Paxton
19	Eloisa Garcia
20	Carol Hany
22	Edie Queen
27	Larry Routh
27	Diane Parsell
31	Austin Van de Roer

Anniversaries

13	Dolly & Richard Pond
13	Brandi & Matthew Walker