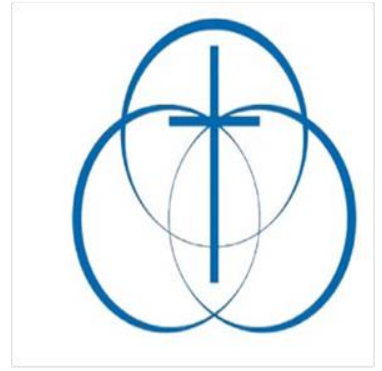


# Oneco Hope News

## Oneco Hope Global Methodist Church

2112 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue E., Bradenton, FL 34203

Email: [onecohope@gmail.com](mailto:onecohope@gmail.com) – Website: [www.onecohope.com](http://www.onecohope.com)



April 2024

SPRING

Greetings Family, Welcome to Spring!

Spring is a time for new beginnings, and I would like to share one with you.

In Isaiah, God says, *“Behold, I will do something new, now it will spring forth; will you not be aware of it? I will even make a roadway in the wilderness, rivers in the desert.”* (Isa. 43:19)

While this may be new to us, it is not new at all. It is something many churches do. It is a Membership Class that those interested in joining our church will attend. Thom Rainer, one of the most respected church consultants around, gives these reasons as to why a local church needs a Membership Class.

1. A new members' class identifies the uniqueness of the church.
2. It shows that membership is valued highly, and not casually.
3. It provides the first step in discipleship.
4. It shows what is expected of every member. The class does not add to what is needed for salvation but clarifies what is already stated.
5. It answers questions and concerns in a healthy way.
6. It provides the leadership with a way to interact with prospective members in a relaxed environment.
7. It provides an avenue where new members can get to know other new members and begin a relationship with them.
8. It gets people on the same page with our church's vision, direction, structure, purpose, and strategy.
9. It prevents possible factions and problems.
10. While not a guarantee, a new member's class will help new members be faithful and effective members for years to come.

The Class will include,

1. “Why I began attending Oneco Hope GMC.”
2. Oneco Hope's Basic Beliefs, Core Values, Mission Statement, Vision Statement, And Discipleship Process
3. The Three Stages of Grace (prevenient, justifying, and sanctifying)

4. Opportunities for Weekly Discipleship: Sunday School, Wesleyan Discipleship, Prayer Groups, and Others
5. Our Global Methodist Church Baptismal and Membership Vows
6. Introducing our Oneco Hope Website
7. Taking A Spiritual Gifts Inventory and discovering opportunities for service
8. Information on The Global Methodist Church
9. Questions and Answer Times
10. Do you believe God is leading you to join Oneco Hope?

Presently, we will hold our Membership Class twice a year, on two consecutive Sunday afternoons from 3:00 – 5:00. As pastor, I have the privilege of leading it. While the class is primarily a prerequisite for membership, we invite everyone to sign up. All members of the Leadership Council will eventually take the class.

Our first class is Sunday June 2, and Sunday June 9, both from 3-5:00PM.

If you would like more information or if you would like to register, please call, or text me at 386-546-2733.

God bless you all,

Pastor Gene



The Giving Challenge is an exciting 24-hour giving event being held Noon Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> to Noon Wednesday April 10<sup>th</sup>. All donations made during this time **up to \$100.00 per person will be matched** by the Patterson Foundation dollar-for-dollar. Most of the missions Oneco Hope helps with are listed on the website. What a great way to make your donation double and help twice as much!! [Givingchallenge.org](http://Givingchallenge.org).

Mark your calendar and support

**ONECO MEN'S GROUP WILD GAME DINNER**

COME JOIN US ON SATURDAY APRIL 27,  
2024, FROM 5PM-6PM IN OUR FELLOWSHIP  
HALL. THE FOOD IS GREAT AND THE  
FELLOWSHIP IS AMAZING!

**Care Net Manasota  
Pregnancy Center  
reports to us that they had 5  
salvations in February!**

**God is at work in this  
ministry!!**

Dear Church Family,

As your Lay Leader and The Leadership Council Chairperson I have something exciting to share with you. We have been in contact with the New Hope Church, a Haitian church that has been meeting for quite some time at Faith United Methodist Church in Northwest Bradenton. They are looking for a place to meet in the Oneco area where there is a significantly larger Haitian population. They have met with Pastor Gene with their Statement of Faith and their vision. This seems to be an opportunity for us to fulfil our mission statement. Our Leadership Council heard from their Pastor at our meeting on March 18, 2024. They have about fifteen members and are growing. They have an online presence in the area and are serving as Helping Hands Outreach in distributing food on Wednesdays each week. They would begin meeting in room 10 of our West Education Building, on Sundays from 9:30am – 11:30am. The Leadership Council decided to take a month to pray over this decision and we would like you to join us in praying. We would ask you to pray in agreement with us for God's will to be done. The Council will be making a decision at the April 15, 2024, meeting at 6:30pm in the Hebrews Room. Let us focus on God's priorities and listening to His Spirit. May we be obedient to His Great Commission. Our mission statement is **"To make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly."** We believe that providing love and space for this Haitian Church absolutely helps us to make disciples for Jesus Christ! They are also willing to cover their own expenses. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Gene or myself or anyone on the Leadership Council.

Blessings,

Janet Saver, Lay Leader  
941-812-5352



**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	941-752-3907
Greg Rohr, Music Worship	941-321-4413
Church Office (Mon.-Tues.-Thur.)	941-755-5943

***Birthdays***

01	Debbie Crouse
01	Fern Hency
04	Gary Clark
06	Judy Colson
08	Nancy Hunter
12	Teresa O'Keefe
20	Dorothy Begin
23	Julie Clark
24	George Langdon
24	Richard Pond
26	Claudia Kellogg
26	Bonita Young
30	Lynne Leach
26	Bruce Beacon

***Anniversaries***

03	Sue & George Anthony
29	Debbie & Mark Hanson