



Living Hope Church

Yucca Valley, CA

Hillside Happenings September 2023

Our Mission

We exist to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

The Vision

A multigenerational community of followers of Jesus Christ



From the Pastor's Desk By Pastor Bill Wilcox

Please join us for Worship

Sunday Mornings 10:30am
Thursday Nights 6:30pm

When pondering word pictures to describe the Christian life, I am often drawn to the idea of a great journey. That the moment we place our trust in Jesus we take the proverbial “first step” on our thousand-mile trip. And certainly, such a comparison is not without warrant. Hebrews speaks of the Christian life as an endurance race, and Paul makes it clear in Philippians 3 that even though he hasn’t “arrived” yet, he will press on.

But when I look at the life of faith that way, I sometimes miss the point of the analogy. I make the mistake of defining my walk with Jesus as a destination rather than a journey. With a destination mentality I mistakenly assume God is supposed to give me stuff, always make my plans succeed—in short, He is supposed to make me happy all the time. Indeed, our destination, in His presence, will be a time of great joy and no more sorrow or loss. But that’s then, this is now; and now we are to continue the journey.

It’s not that you don’t think about the destination. The fact is it’s the prospect of that remarkable destination that gives me ever more motivation to continue the journey. But what God has really called us to, here and now, is to live vitally connected to Him and travel well on this journey we call the Christian life. Jesus said the journey begins when I make the decision to deny myself, take up my cross and follow Him. The trip progresses as I walk in the Spirit not the flesh, walk by faith not by sight, always fixing my eyes on Jesus. The journey has difficulties and setbacks. We experience losses in this fallen world: some are absolute injustices, some are self-inflicted, and some just happen with no rhyme or reason. Remember though, this world is not the destination; it’s merely the path we must follow as we proceed toward our destination.

Yes, the journey can be difficult. Maybe that’s why I try to make it out to be the destination and barter with God to make me happy in the here and now. But the real joy, the real fulfillment in this life comes when we embrace the God who promises to be with us throughout the entire journey and conduct us safely to our final destination. The journey is an adventure; it’s fraught with danger and unknowns. But it is also filled with an ever-increasing personal fellowship with the Living God. So, live in the moment, embrace the journey. The destination will come in due time (I suspect sooner than we think), so press on.

In Christ our living hope,

September Schedule of Messages

September 3 – The Adventure Begins: The Bible Book by Book
September 10 – Genesis
September 17 – Exodus
September 24 – Leviticus

Pastor Bill

Elder's Corner



By Dave Bratton Elder of Facilities

I come to you with great news, Church Family!

God has blessed us with many new repairs to our facilities such as repairing existing AC Units and bathroom fixtures, and we have installed new security cameras in the Foyer.

Sometimes it may seem overwhelming and many times we don't seem to have the funds, but let me tell you, God is faithful. He always provides! I have seen it with my own eyes—He has not only provided us with funds but with helping hands when we needed it the most. So please continue praying for these things as there is always a need.

Also, we do need to be praying for additional helping hands for our soon-to-be announced fall cleanup coming in October. (We will provide more information very soon).

Editors Note: Another way we can help Dave is by letting him know when we see something that needs to be repaired, changed or removed. And, as Dave stated above, do be praying about how you can be involved in our Fall Cleanup in October!

September Missionaries of the Month

Guy & Judy Gerrard

serving with Cru
homebased in Orlando, Florida



Guy & Judy with their three children—Ben, Megan, Nicole

Guy & Judy have been with Cru for over 38 years.

Guy is the Photo Manager of Cru's communication group and one of three photographers. Guy travels often within the United States and around the world.

Judy is field staff with Cru City Orlando. City ministry's vision is to "engage the curious and equip the follower, so that everyone finds their place in God's story." Judy often meets with former students one-on-one for continued spiritual mentoring.

To see some of Guy's photographs, and to read some great articles, go to
www.cru.org/storylines
to sign up for a free subscription

Monthly Women's Brunch

Saturday, September 9th

10:00am in Brownell Hall

Theme: "Our Freedom in Christ"

Speaker: Iliana Soto

Please bring a dish to share and bring a friend!
All ages are welcome.

Beverages will be provided.

Homeless Outreach

We will be taking the message of Hope to our local homeless community by filling backpacks with various much-needed items and taking them to the homeless population, creating opportunities to minister to this often-neglected segment of the Morongo Basin. For more information or ways to help, Contact Cory Lotz, Elder of Local Outreach.

Pastor Appreciation Month

Living Hope Church will be honoring Pastor Bill & Pastor Eric this month.

Gift bags will be available each Sunday at the information table, where gifts of encouragement may be dropped off. The bags will be presented to our pastors on September 24th during the worship service.

Pastor Appreciation Pot Blessing Lunch

Sunday, September 24th

12:00 noon

Location to be determined

(if you would be willing to host the lunch at your home,
contact Gary Hudson)

(be watching the weekly bulletins for updates)

Men's Bible Study & Breakfast

Saturday, September 16th

8:00am in Brownell Hall

All men are invited!

Breakfast is courtesy of our
Men's Ministry.

September 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 10am Fellowship, Coffee, Snacks 10:30am Communion Sunday In-Person Worship & Livestream Worship on YouTube	4	5 6:00pm Ladies' Bible Study via Zoom	6 6:30pm Mid-Week Bible Study via Zoom	7 6:30pm Thursday Night Worship	8	9 10am Women's Brunch in Brownell Hall
10 10am Fellowship, Coffee, Snacks 10:30am In-Person Worship & Livestream Worship on YouTube	11	12 6:00pm Ladies' Bible Study via Zoom	13 6:30pm Mid-Week Bible Study via Zoom	14 6:30pm Thursday Night Worship	15	16 8:00am Men's Bible Study & Breakfast in Brownell Hall 4pm-6pm Light in the Desert is hosting International Day in the Gym
17 10am Fellowship, Coffee, Snacks 10:30am Communion Sunday In-Person Worship & Livestream Worship on YouTube	18	19 6:00pm Ladies' Bible Study via Zoom	20 6:30pm Mid-Week Bible Study via Zoom	21 6:30pm Thursday Night Worship	22	23
24 10am Fellowship, Coffee, Snacks 10:30am In-Person Worship & Livestream Worship on YouTube 12pm Pastor Appreciation Pot Blessing Lunch	25	26 6:00pm Ladies' Bible Study via Zoom	27 6:30pm Mid-Week Bible Study via Zoom	28 6:30pm Thursday Night Worship	29	30