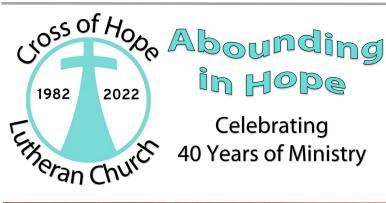


RAYS of HOPE JOURNAL

June 2022, Volume 40, Issue 6





Cross of Hope's 40th Celebration May 13 - May 15 Was So Much Fun!

Please note that photos throughout this edition of the 40th Celebration were contributed by Greg and Nancy Morrison; Bob and Margie Reed, Florence Begay

Cross of Hope Lutheran Church and School

6104 Taylor Ranch Road NW Albuquerque, NM 87120 Phone Number: (505) 897-0047 E-mail: office@crossofhope.org On the web at: www.crossofhope.org cohcouncil@crossofhope.org

This Journal of Cross of Hope Lutheran Church is published each month for the enrichment of the mission ("Loving God • Transforming Relationships • Serving Others"), for the life of the people of God at Cross of Hope and our community.

Pastor:	Rev. R. Adam Berndt	
Production Editor:	Linda Willoughby	
Editorial Staff:	Beth Cretsinger Forrest Uppendahl	
Columnists:	Pastor Russ Sorensen Gretchen Comfort	
Contributors:	The Church Mouse	
Reporter and Writer:	Mary Bresnahan	
Photographers:	Antonio Alba Florence Begay Laura Berndt Margie Reed	
Council Communication.		

Council Communication: Pat Benchik,-President Margie Reed,-Vice President and Executive Assistant:

WE WANT YOUR NEWS ITEMS

Deadline is 10th of the month for the following month's edition. Send E-mail articles to <u>office@crossofhope.org</u> or deliver to church office.

Stewardship

Stewardship involves your time, talent and treasure. Contact the church office for assistance in getting started in any of our ministries. Please remember Cross of Hope in preparing your will.

Special Needs VBS FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES

Dates: July 25 – July 29 Time: 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Registration Form Link

Questions or more information, contact Patty Westerfield, <u>pattyw50@aol.com</u> or 505-250-5186.

Cross of Hope School News



Debra Alba, School Ministry Director





School Online Registration

https://www.crossofhope.org/ schools/

for more information. Tuition for the 2022-2023 School Year

Elementary Tuition

Kindergarten - 5th grade: \$7,075

Preschool Tuition

T/TH: \$2,290 M/W/F:\$3,430 M-F \$5,720

Job Postings

Preschool Director

Cross of Hope Lutheran Church & School is seeking a Preschool Director for the 2022-2023 school year. Cross of Hope School is a welcoming Christ centered community providing a high-quality education in a nurturing environment that respects each child's development. Our Preschool serves children from age 3 - 5 years-old. An ideal candidate will maintain effective communication with families, hiring and supervising Preschool staff, and work closely with the Director of School Ministry.

Duties

The Preschool Director is responsible for the efficient and effective daily operation of a comprehensive preschool and early (a.m.) extended care program. The Preschool Director will also handle the daily leadership of the school, including welcoming families, tours, and monthly staff meetings with preschool staff members. The position oversees the required annual reporting for accreditation, ensures the compliance with state and local regulations, and tracks and completes all documentation in a timely manner.

Requirements

Candidates must meet educational requirements for New Mexico 5-star FOCUS status. A bachelor's degree in early childhood education, child development, or a related field is preferred.

Previous preschool experience as both a teacher and administrator.

Ability to pass a federal background check.

Leadership Certificate or training.

Compensation

This will be a salaried position 30 hours/week. Compensation will be based on education and experience.

Qualified, Interested Candidates, Please Send:

1. A letter of interest (not to exceed 2 pages). Your resume (not to exceed 3 pages).

To: Debra Alba; Email: <u>esdirector@crossofhope.org</u>; Applications must be received by June 17, **2022**



Communications Director

The Communications Director ensures effective communication across various platforms such as website, social media, email, newsletter, bulletin, PowerPoint, and others as appropriate for Cross of Hope Church and School.

Scope: Part-TimeDuties include: Maintaining and updating all of the following:Digital Communications: website, social media accounts, weekly community emailWorship Communications - Sunday PowerPoint, Sunday bulletin (Hope-filled Happenings), Sundayleaders guides, special worship services as needed.Other Print Communications - monthly newsletter (Rays of Hope Journal), and others as needed.

For a complete job description, email <u>office@crossofhope.org</u>. Please send your resume and references to <u>office@crossofhope.org</u> or mail to Cross of Hope Lutheran Church, 6104 Taylor Ranch Rd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120.

Welcome to Our New Church Members

You may already know some of these folks, but let's make it official. And, you may learn something new!

> Dr./Pastor Rick Alpers – Rick was born in Riverside, CA. He is a semi-retired ELCA pastor who has fulfilled interim roles throughout his career. He came here from CA to retire but COVID had other ideas. 4207 Montera PI. NW, Abg 87114, 831-225-9939, ralpers@gmail.com

Bob & Bonny **Arseneau** – Bob was born in Kankakee, IL and Bonny in Volga, SD. Bonny holds an MBA in Finance. They both worked for

the FDIC, Bob as a Liquidator and Bonny as an Examiner. They lived in downtown Chicago for 15 years along with stints in Dallas, TX and Minneapolis, MN. They moved here in 2020. 1324 5th St. SE, RR, 87124, 763-350-8175 or 74, rdarseneau@gmail.com

Ed and Beth Christians – Just relocated here from New Port Beach, CA. They both hold college degrees, Ed was born in Muscatine. IA and Beth in New Port Beach, CA, Ed worked in a management position for the State Employees Credit Union. 602 Hampton Ct. SE. RR, 87124, 512-394-9322, echristians@ebchristians.com

Rich and Pat **Mohr-Kelly** – Moved here from Pittsbugh, PA. Pat was an ELCA pastor and has three children, Amy, Michael and Robert. Rich is an artist. Pat was born in OH and Rich in St. Paul, MN. 6200 Montano Plaza Dr. NW, Apt. 124, Abg, 87120, 505-557-9947, 28rizzo@gmail.com

> Mike and Susan **Ropp** – the leaders of an incredibly musically talented family. Susan was born in Beatrice, NE and is a Molecular Biologist and works for the Dept. of Health. Mike was born in Ellsworth Air Force Base in SD and is an Electrical Engineer and works for Sandia Lab. They moved here from Brookings, SD. Their children are Thomas (see below) and Kate. The latter attends NMSU pursuing a degree in Animal Science (we may have a vet amongst us!). 701 Sol de Sandia PI. SW, Abg,

87105, (S) 605-690-9276, Michael.ropp@ieee.org

Thomas **Ropp** – part of the musically talented Ropp family. Thomas is our Director of Music Ministry. Thomas will begin his Junior year at UNM majoring Music. 701 Sol de Sandia Pl. SW, Abq, 87105 (text) 605-695-1266,

roppth@gmail.com

Claudia **Russo** – Claudia is a native Albuguerguean but has "moved all over." She holds two BS degrees. 640 Pima PI. NW, Abg, 87120, 505-203-6198, cjrusso1949@yahoo.com (Claudia has taken on the Crisis Care Team Coordinator Position.)









FRENCH HORN

DI AVINO



New Members continued from page 4

Dr. JanaLee **Sponburrg** – Jana was born in Waseca, MN. She holds a Ph.D. and worked for the Dept. of Defense. She has transplanted here from Alexandria, VA. From mid-May to mid-September she spends her time in MN and then back to NM. 23 Wind Rd. NW, Abq, 87120, 703-598-5957, twotrot@gmail.com

Keri and (Ross) **Sutter** – You have seen Keri doing liturgical dance performances for us here at church, along with vocal solos during COVID. Keri is a native Albuquerquean with a B.A. in Fine Arts. Ross was born in Dearborn, MI with a B.S. in University Studies from UNM and worked there in library acquisitions. 7513 Frederick Ln. SW, Abq, 97121, 505-401-9407, keriandross@swcp.com

Tanya **Zynda** – Was born in Pine Bluff, AR. She is a graduate of Texas A & M University. Tanya is currently employed as an Office Coordinator at Apollo Chiropractic. She is married to Steve (retired Army) with a daughter, Jazmyn. 6315 Camino De Paz Rd. NW, Abq 87120, 505-321-4547, tazmail96@gmail.com

We also welcome back after a few years:

Jerry and Laura Burton

Jerry and Laura helped out on Sunday evenings serving meals and leading Bible Study at Steelbridge, they also like to participate in dramas and music.





Who is our "Masked Hoper" question

Masked Hoper question: Who has seen much of the country riding the rails on Amtrak?

See page 11 for the answer.





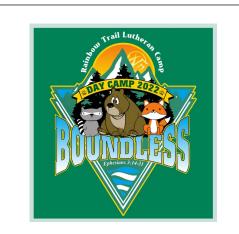
June 2022



COH Small Group Ministry

The Mission of Cross of Hope Faith Connections Groups... Making Faith Connections Worship and Small Group series

To provide an opportunity for all people to share Christ's love and authentic community in a small group setting where lives are transformed through growth in faith and service to others. Watch the Hope-filled Happenings for a summer schedule.



Rainbow Trail Lutheran Day Camp (our VBS program) dates are June 13-17 For youth entering K- Grade 5 in the fall

Event sponsored with Cross of Hope and All Saints Lutheran

Click on the following link <u>Sign Up To</u> <u>Volunteer</u> ALSO Craft Supplies and Snacks needed sign up at <u>Craft Supplies and</u> <u>Snacks</u>



RAYS OF HOPE JOURNAL



Kaley McClain	3-Jun
Patty Westerfield	4-Jun
Sean Moser	4-Jun
Kellie Webb	6-Jun
Kelly Moser	9-Jun
Violet Adams	10-Jun
Wendy Harrison	11-Jun
Russ Sorensen	13-Jun
Ron Wirths	13-Jun
Jonathan McClain	15-Jun
Gretchen Comfort	18-Jun
Alejandro Abeyta	19-Jun
Laurie Weiss	20-Jun
Noah Venegas	22-Jun
Emilio Reynolds	25-Jun
Aubrey Zimmer	25-Jun
Patrice Leddy	26-Jun
Nancy Lacher	27-Jun
Mike Westerfield	27-Jun
Jerry Burton	27-Jun
Tom Ropp	28-Jun
Ken Anselmi	30-Jun

Address and Phone Updates

Linda Ehlers: 5580 Mansfield Pl NW, Albuquerque, NM 87114

Kathy Gorman: 5205 Sweetwater Dr NW, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87120

Jim and Denise Kouri: 5150 Trump St, Unit 401 N Charleston, SC 29420-8383 Page 7

Send a Card to These

Friends

Heart Strings

Members of COH unable to worship with us on a regular basis.

Carroll Werling 2331 Westside Blvd SE #202 Rio Rancho, NM 87124

Karen Reiten 899-1504 4841 Shin Avenue NE Rio Rancho, NM 87144

John Fries Gardens - Retreat Villas Assisted Living 4100 Jackie Road SE, #15 Rio Rancho, NM 87124

Carol Sabrowsky 1250 Northland Dr Apt 110 Princeton, MN 55371 Carol Russell 404-0566 crgardener@aol.com 121 Second Street Rio Rancho, NM 87124

Russ and Mary Pat Edwards

Brookdale, 300 Valencia Dr SE, Apt 345 ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87108

Bobbi Dopslaf

10400 Universe Blvd. NW Apt 815 Albuquerque, NM 87114



Gregory and Nancy Morrison	6-Jun	Married 41
cregery and Nancy Memsen	0 0um	1
Karen and Alan Schwartz	10-Jun	55
Pat and Laura Benchik	14-Jun	42
Leeon and Diane Carrico	17-Jun	61
Jeff and Michele Moser	19-Jun	29
Bill and Gem Harris	19-Jun	51
John and Nancy Lacher	20-Jun	41
William and Lois Casto	25-Jun	28
Adam and Laura Berndt	25-Jun	12
Philip Wangberg and Pat Holman	28-Jun	50

Years

Notes from the Property Team "PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS"

October 2021 was an exciting time as our preschool was fortunate to receive a NM Early Childhood Education & Care Department Grant from the state. Since then, we have been able to purchase much-needed items for the school and continue to operate as an accredited preschool.

Classrooms:

shelves for supplies in the Teachers Resource Room



rolling shelves for the assorted sand to storage bins for additional playge the playground new playground installation of av new Dell Computers for teachers watercooler removal of old floors and installation of new ones new windows new shades

Outside:

new turf installed in the preschool playground assorted sand toys storage bins for toys and equipment additional playground bark and sand for the playground new playground equipment installation of awnings over the entry doors

Without this grant Cross of Hope would not have been able to take care of these improvement. God is definitely watching over us and taking care of our children.

By Margie Reed

Summertime and the Hope Gardeners

Bees are buzzing, butterflies are searching for newly opened flowers and the sounds and smells of summer are all around us.

In preparation for summer, the Hope Gardeners raked up the rest of the dead leaves, pulled weeds, planted flowers and new shrubs, among lots of other things.

Ruth Hinkel always does a fabulous job of tending to the circles in front of the Church and the flower garden next to the Church. The roses are just gorgeous. Ruth works (with love) every Friday pulling weeds, planting flowers and putting topsoil around her flower beds. Her love of the earth really shows.

Have you noticed how beautiful the grounds are - take a walk around the property and see how fantastic everything looks. Rudy and Sherrie Simek spend countless hours spraying the weeds, cleaning up the parking lot and raking the sand. They have planted lots of irises and purple cone flowers.

John Lacher is dedicated to keeping the Kachina Street side of our School looking amazing. Ruth, Rudy, Sherrie and John are truly a blessing to the Church. When you see them just say thanks!



Hope Garden

Worship Dance





So many of us are rubbing our eyes, carrying extra Kleenex or coughing but no one knows if it is a spring cold, an allergy or smoke irritation. Right now, it could be all three.

Colds tend to last from 3 days to 2 weeks. Colds usually occur during winter months while allergies can occur any time of year. Cold symptoms take a few days to appear after you become infected while allergy symptoms can begin immediately after contact with whatever irritates you.

With a cold you may have a fever but not with an allergy. A sore throat can happen with allergies but it is more common with a cold. Itchy watery eyes are often signs that you have an allergy while body aches are associate with the common cold.

Cold symptoms can begin and increase over a couple days while as soon as you are exposed to an allergen, your body begins to react. Seasonal changes seem to be the most annoying usually in the fall and/or spring when nature makes its changes.

You may get the feeling that I will never be without any symptoms, for allergies, treat the symptoms and avoid the problem. Much easier said than done. For instance we are experiencing spring allergies while the smoke from fires north of us tend to be part of everyday life. Cold symptoms should fade within 2 weeks.

Get plenty of rest, avoid crowds and call your doctor if you question any Covid signs.

Council Corner

By Kristi Valdez, COH Council Member

And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.- Colossians 3:17



Greetings from your church council!

Thank you to the leaders and volunteers of the Cross of Hope 40th Anniversary Celebration team for their incredible planning and hard work. The many hearts, minds, and hands that made the celebration possible are a wonderful reminder of the body of Christ. Thank you for using your spiritual gifts to bless others. The celebration weekend was a tremendous success – filled with fun, fellowship, joy, laughter, memories, and of course, delicious food. The service projects (cleaning of Mariposa park and collection of food for the food bank) were also very successful. We collected 911 pounds of much-needed for the Rio Grande food pantry. In addition, we were blessed to see and hear from Pastors Ron Barth, Russ Sorenson, Matt Powell, and Bishop Jim Gonia. What a wonderful weekend! Here's to another 40 blessed years at Cross of Hope!

The council also thanks Thomas Ropp for the gift of the amazing song, which he wrote himself, especially for the Cross of Hope celebration. What a beautiful gift!

Finally, we want to provide you highlights from our May meeting, which was very productive and filled with lively discussion, as usual.

We welcomed our newest council member, Sherrie Simek. Welcome Sherrie!

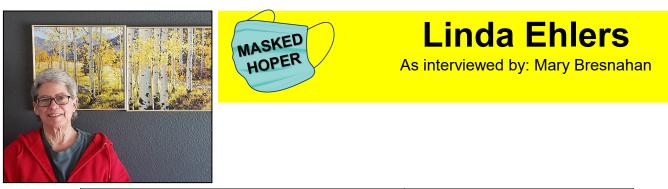
A school update was provided. There are already 75 children enrolled (or in the application process) in preschool and K-5 for the 2022-2023 school year. School leaders are developing a marketing plan to advertise Cross of Hope school. There are new additions (fine arts and library) to the enrichment programs already provided. Finally, the Council approved to move forward with hiring a new Preschool Director.

The money received from the Child Care Stabilization Grant (through the New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department) continues to be spent on much-needed improvements to the preschool and school (i.e., new floors, adding age-appropriate items to the playground, new playground turf, repairing windows, and other such improvements), in accordance with the grant guidelines.

Summer worship plans were discussed. Beginning in a few weeks, the 9 am service will be outdoors. Keep your eyes and ears open for the date.

We want to remind everyone of the Annual Congregation Meeting on 6/26/22. The meeting will follow a 10 am church service.

Please know the Church Council strives to be open and accessible to the members it serves. We will continue to keep you informed of upcoming changes, events, and activities. You may also direct any questions or concerns to any Council member, and we will do our best to help.



Birthdate: July 4, 1952	Birthplace: Lexington, KY
Occupation: Test Systems Administrator	
Marital status: Single – widowed	Children: Two stepsons
Hobbies: Paint-by-number, baseball, spaceflight	

Linda moved from Kentucky to California with her parents and brother when she was two years old, She lived there until 2007. She received a B.S. degree in Computer Science from National University in 1995.

Linda worked for Analog Devices, Inc (ADI) in San Jose, CA. for 33 years until she was laid-off in 2007. According to their website, they create solutions that help businesses thrive in digital transformation. They utilize light impulses to create smarter autonomous driving vehicles, enabling multi-parameter health monitoring that helps doctors quickly analyze patient data. They transform real world "phenomena" (sound, light, motion, power, radio frequencies) into intelligent data and insights.

Linda specialized in mainframe data archiving. She worked in the test engineering department where she helped test engineers organize test data for customers. The information was archived on servers. One of the things ADI does that we can identify with is making chips for Dolby surround sound equipment. ADI, at this location, has now become a "server farm."

Linda was introduced to Bobbie in 1999. Bobbie worked for the Monterey Bay Institute where she taught teachers how to create virtual learning classes. (Little did we know then how much this would be needed.) They became friends which led them to marriage in 2005. When Linda got laid off, Bobbie suggested this was probably a good time for her to retire – so she did. They moved to Astoria, OR, a city of about 10,000 in the northwest corner of the state sitting on the Pacific Ocean, where the Columbia River meets the Pacific. Linda and Bobbie had vacationed here many times. Astoria has strong ties to Lewis & Clark and is the oldest American settlement west of the Rockies. It was a welcomed shift from busy, high-priced California. Fishing and lumbering had been the major industries but now tourism has grown as an important mainstay. Astoria has a large German and Nordic population. Linda said the residents are pretty reticent by nature. It took a while for them to be accepted.

Linda Ehlers continued

Linda and Bobbie were active in their church, First Lutheran. Linda was on the church Council. They lost their pastor due to fraud which they discovered. They were having a hard time attracting a new pastor – small town. The woman who was the Council president had a son who was a pastor in Europe. He was ready to come home. His mother (who had to resign her position as president due to her referring the candidate) talked to him about taking on the pastor job in his hometown, Astoria. With her stepping down from the Council, Linda became president and was a key member on the search committee. Receiving no candidates from the synod, they offered the position to the former president's son. He took it - and is still in Astoria. As you can imagine, turmoil causes memberships to diminish. Diminishing membership was also happening at another church in town. Since Linda moved, the two churches have merged. The church is now called Peace First Lutheran Church and has two locations.

Bobbie had two sons, Javier and Aaron. Linda and Bobbie did not tell the boys about their original marriage. When the boys learned about it, a second ceremony was planned at Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran church in San Jose.

Bobbie was diagnosed with lung cancer and passed away in 2019. One son, Javier, lived in Oregon and one, Aaron, in Albuquerque. Before her death, Bobbie and Linda decided they should leave small town Oregon and come to Albuquerque. Later, Javier joined them here.

Linda shared that she loves to travel on Amtrak. She does not like to fly so the train is her means of travel. She has taken many train rides, including several across country. Linda says the best is the Coast Starlight which goes from San Diego to Seattle. I agree train travel can be great fun with wonderful scenery and good meals. Additionally, you might meet some interesting people along the way, which Linda did.

Linda and Bobbie did a lot of RVing. They put many miles on their truck and went through two RVs. They would travel to Mesa, AZ every year for baseball spring training. Linda is a big San Francisco Giants fan. She also hinted that she is a space (NASA) fan.

Right now, Linda is dealing with some health issues so you may or may not see her at church. We all know what it is like to be stuck at home. Give her a call to talk about painting, baseball, train rides or outer space. The picture on page 11 shows Linda with one of her intricate paint-by-number paintings. Pretty awesome!

Rays of Hope Production Editor

This volunteer position consists of coordinating our monthly planning meetings with the ROH Planning Team and assembling the layout along with last minute additions. The position is 6-8 hours per month. For more information, email office@crossofhope.org or call (505) 897-0047, x102, Linda Willoughby will gladly talk with you more about what the job entails.





COH founding Pastor Ron Barth and friend Helen with Pastor Adam at the May 14 Celebration Dinner.



Above - May 14 Service Project Rio Grand Food collection leaders Robert and Sheri Phillips.

Right - May 14 Service Project Cleaning up Mariposa Park.



Saylor Lynn Torres was Baptized Sunday, May 15.by Pastor Adam Berndt.







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(right - photo) May 15 COH.40th Sunday Lunch.





(all other photos) May 14 Mariposa Park Cleanup Service Project

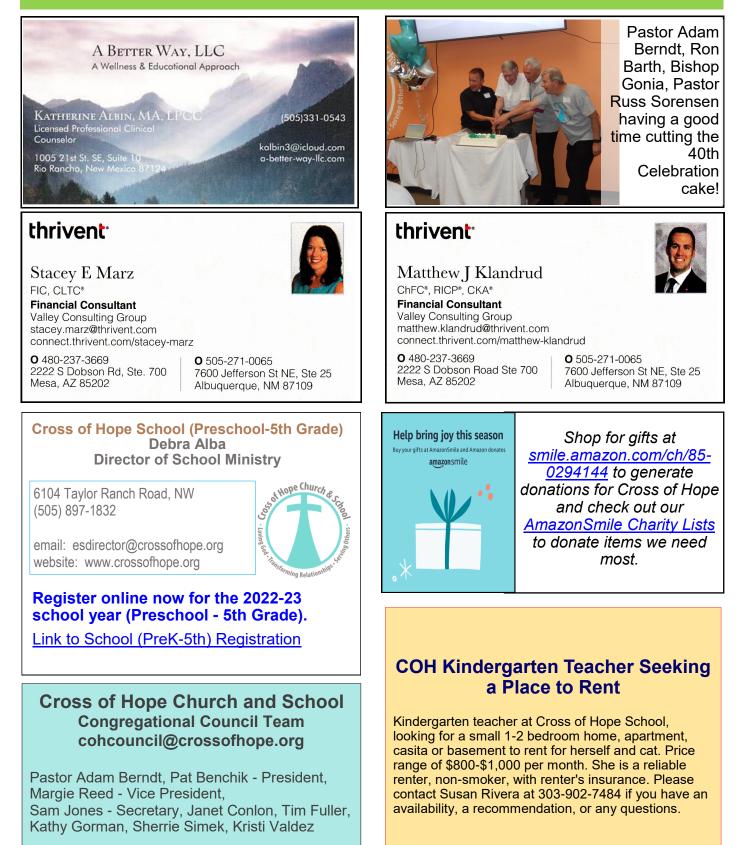




Saturday, May 14 Service Project - Clean-up at Mariposa Park

When you need these services, please think of *Rays of Hope* sponsors.

We thank them for their continued support in offsetting the costs (by \$10 per month) associated with producing Rays of Hope each month.



CROSS OF HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

6104 Taylor Ranch Road NW Albuquerque, NM 87120

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Mission Statement Cross of Hope is a Spirit-centered community that shares Christ's love through worship, education and outreach to develop and strengthen relationships with God.

f Rev. R. Adam Berndt, Pastor

505-897-0047 • office@crossofhope.org www.crossofhope.org

Facebook Page: Cross of Hope Church

Worship Times: On-Site Sunday - 9:00 a.m. Sunday - 10:45 a.m. Digital: Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

Devotions: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.

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June Book Readings

Recommended by Dee Gutierrez

The Divine Mentor: Growing Your Faith as You Sit at the Feet of the Savior - Wayne Cordeiro

Many believers settle for a spiritual routine that lacks God's presence. But what they truly want, and truly need, is a dynamic, vital, and intimate relationship with God. Here Wayne Cordeiro gently but directly shows readers how to move from routine to relationship--from mundane actions to fresh encounters--by learning to hear Him speak to them through the Bible. Through stories, lessons, and anecdotes, Cordeiro equips readers to listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit as they read God's Word, enabling them to transform their daily quiet time with the Lord.

Passing on the Faith: A Radical New Model for Youth and Family Ministry - Merton P. Strommen, PhD & Richard A. Hardel, DMin

What a radically new (yet ancient) model of faith formation: the family is restored to the center of the faith growth process, with the congregation and community as integral, active partners!

A Bible Study on Becoming a Woman of Faith - Cynthia Heald

Learn what makes God's grace so amazing. Thought-provoking quotations and suggestions for personal reflection drive the truths of this study from head to heart. Recommended for any age or level of spiritual maturity. 11 sessions.