



September 28, 2025



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

10:00 A.M. WORSHIP

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



50th Anniversary Celebration of Hope United Methodist Church

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

Our Hope for Years to Come
Processional For a Joyful Day

John M. Rasley
Dale Wood
Cheryl Saborsky, CAGO, organist

INTROIT & PROCESSION

Peal con brio

Karen Thompson
Chancel Bell Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Neill Kipp

L: God is our refuge and strength,
P: A faithful help in every generation!
L: Though years pass and change comes,
P: God's presence has never wavered.
L: In the midst of storms and triumphs,
P: We have not feared—God has been near.
L: From humble beginnings to bold mission,
P: Hope has stood firm in God's grace.
L: Today we praise the God of our past,
P: And we trust the God of our future!
L: Come, let us celebrate with joy and courage,
ALL: For the Lord of hosts is with us!

Inspired by Psalm 46

*OPENING HYMN

To God Be the Glory

UMH 98

OPENING PRAYER

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

EPISCOPAL GREETING

Bishop Kristin Stoneking
Mountain Sky Conference of the United Methodist Church

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC

A Matter of Faith

Anne Rowland
Red Sea

Clyde Oakley, guest director

Mason Ambler	Audrey Chapman	Ellie Doering	Pete Duke	Aubrey Mahnken
Greg Mahnken	Clara Meerdink	Anna Rogers	Savannah Young	

Anne Rowland, director

Dave Mahnken and Chris Wiant, sound set up Charlie Ojemann, Red Sea assistant

SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 1:1-11

Ashlyn Stapleton

ANTHEM

Our Hope Is In God

Craig Laumann

Commissioned for Hope UMC's 50th Anniversary

Chancel Choir

Craig Laumann, guest director

Lydia Sviatlovskaya, violin

Andrew Cooksey	Janet Denette	Julie Durst	Mary Edet	Lillian Glasgow
Robert Hartley	Lulu Hendrickson	Neill Kipp	Craig Laumann	Laurel Laumann
Elizabeth Martin	Hilton Martin	Liz Martin	Susan Merrick	Clyde Oakley
Patti Jo Oakley	Charlie Ojemann	Caitlyn O'Neil	Bob Oursler	Louise Owens
Jan Petro	Jeni Rinner	Nancy Roberts	Judy Sauerteig	Paul Ternlund
	Jane Uylaki	Mary Witt	Hal Wright	
	Larry Meerdink, director		Cheryl Saborsky, pianist	

SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:9-17

Neill Kipp

MESSAGE

Next Up!

Rev. Jeff Rainwater

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

HYMN HYSTERIA

Hope's Favorite Hymn

RECOGNITION OF CHARTER MEMBERS & TELLING OUR STORY

James & Virginia Bryant
Mark & Suzanne Haruf
Ceil Jacobsen
Dale & Thelma Kreeger
Duane & Mary Metcalf
Gary & Mary Penewit
David & Kay Pudlik
Richard & Theresa Wells

Charles & Marge Folkers
Carolyn Houlihan
Dan & Nancy Jenkins
Jim & Barb Lehr
Lenny & Susan Mitchell
Douglas Pratt
Fred & Evelyn Thornton
Jack & Anne Wilson

Charlie Ledbetter
Frank & Marge Hagin
David & Shirley Hull
George & Kathy Knipprath
James & Bertie Lenny
Richard & Karen Olsen
Bruce & Pauline Pringle
Eve Walter

OFFERTORY

Finding Hope

Craig Laumann
Chancel Bell Choir

Craig Laumann, director

Karen Christensen
Laurel Laumann
Jan Petro

Carol Davenport
Annette Mandock
Donna Ralston

Rachel Ellis
Marla Martin
Jane Uylaki

Deborah Kamprath
Susan Merrick
Cindy Wiant

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

*LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Haeil Park

- L: God is our refuge and strength, a help in ages past and a hope for years to come.
Today we remember the story you began in a model home in southeast Denver.
- P: We give thanks for the pioneers of Hope—charter members who gathered in faith, prayed in homes, and dreamed a church into being.**
- L: We remember the first worshippers: the Pudliks, the Metcalfs, the Bryants, the Harufs, the Lehrs, and so many more—faithful hearts who said yes.
- P: We praise you, O God, for those who went before us, and for the foundation they laid in love.**
- L: We remember the Cao family, the first mission of this church—refugees welcomed with compassion and dignity, bearing witness to your grace.
- P: Thanks be to God for every life touched and transformed by Hope—then and now.**
- L: We give thanks for Ann Fort, who followed your Spirit's nudge to Kenya. Through her witness, your gospel crossed oceans and cultures.
- P: We thank you for the saints who served in mission, led with courage, and gave themselves in love.**
- L: We remember every former pastor who preached your Word, blessed our children, stood beside us in grief and joy, and led us faithfully.
- P: For shepherds known and unknown—named and unnamed—we give you thanks, O God.**
- L: We give thanks for songs sung, hands joined, tears shared, and laughter raised. For choirs and casseroles, baptisms and burritos, study groups and Sunday School.
- P: For all the ways your Spirit has been present in this place, we rejoice with glad and grateful hearts!**
- L: We remember those no longer with us—saints who now rest in your eternal peace, yet whose legacy still lives among us.
- P: Surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, we take our place in your never-ending story.**
- L: And now, O God, as this chapter turns and the pen is passed—
We say with full hearts and ready hands:
- P: We are next up!**
To love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in your name.
Thanks be to God!

PRAYER CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Rev. Jessica Rooks
Superintendent, Colorado Front Range District

WE ARE SENT IN MISSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INVITATION TO A RECEPTION

*CLOSING HYMN *God of Grace and God of Glory* UMH 577

*BENEDICTION Bishop Kristin Stoneking

*MUSICAL BENEDICTION *God Be with You till We Meet Again* UMH 672

POSTLUDE *Doxology Postlude* Peter Pindar Stearns
Cheryl Saborsky, CAGO, organist

Our Senior/Lead Pastors		Our Associate & Specific Role Pastors	
Dale McArthur	1974 - 1975	Victor Schuldt - Associate/Visitation	1974 - 1984
Served prior to Hope’s Charter as a Mission Outreach of Parker United Methodist Church		John McIntosh - Youth	1977
Robert Cole	1975 - 1979	Lois Shugart - Education	1981 - 1984
Victor Schuldt	1979 - 1984	Jon Laughlin - Associate	1983 - 1986
Minister of Visitation - Interim Senior Pastor		Jim Luallen - Associate	1986 - 1989
Al Brown	1979 - 1986	Dr. Katie Holmes - Counseling	1988
Richard Vickery	1986 - 1990	Marilyn Lesser - Education/Programs	1987 - 2000
Sam Day	1990 - 1995	Sue Wilcox - Counseling	1988 - 1991
Margaret Rush Hankins	1995 - 2003	Richard Lyon - Associate	1991 - 1994
John Lee	1995 - 1997	Laird Loveland - Visitation	1994 - 1995
Co-Senior Pastor with Margaret Rush Hankins		Debra Juarez - Youth	2003 - 2017
Steve Miller	1997 - 2005	Marla Kauertz - Associate	2004 - 2007
Co-Senior Pastor with Margaret Rush Hankins 1997 - 2003		Cathy Smith - Children & Families	2004 - 2006
E. Russell Brown	Summer 2005	Trudy Barlow - Visitation	2004
Interim Senior Pastor		Lauren Chance Boyd - Programs	2004, 2016 - 2017
Steven Warren	2005 - 2011	Stephanie Price - Associate	2009 - 2018
Dr. Dale Beck	2011 - 2012	Mina Nau - Associate	2018
Interim Senior Pastor		Paul Grossman - Intern & Assistant	2018 - 2021
Don Bird	2012 - 2018	Ken Daniell - Associate	2021 - 2023
Claire McNulty-Drewes	2018 - 2020	Haeil Park - Associate	2023 - present
Lin Cheek	2020 - 2023		
Jeff Rainwater	2023 - present		

SIGNIFICANT DATES IN THE HISTORY OF HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

- September 1974 First Worship Service held in model home with 15 in attendance – new church started by Parker UMC
- June 1975 Robert Cole appointed first pastor
- July 1975 First Service held at Belleview School with 68 members present
- September 28, 1975 Church received its charter from the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Methodist Church
- Fall 1975 Sponsored the Cao family - Vietnamese refugees
- February 1979 Moved into permanent building at 5101 South Dayton Street, Greenwood Village, CO. The original building is now Victor Schuldt Fellowship Hall
- December 1984 First Service held in the current Sanctuary
- December 1992 Completed expansion of classrooms & friendship hall under the main Sanctuary
- April 1998 Hope breaks ground for a new kitchen, extended Narthex, and expansion for offices
- October 2002 Hope dedicates its Memorial Garden
- September 2015 Hope Celebrates 40th Anniversary, begins a new church ministry - “The Land” - in southeast Aurora
- August 2016 Hope identifies its values as *Abundant Life, Discipleship, Meaningful Community, Servanthood and Future Generations*
- September 2025 Hope celebrates the 50th anniversary of its charter



Charter Sunday, September 28, 1975

Hope has remembered its beginnings as a “church plant” from Parker UMC and later helped establish Smoky Hill UMC, Chuka Church in Kenya, and “The Land” in southeast Aurora.

We thank God for Hope UMC and look forward to its next fifty years.



Cao, Haruf, Metcalf, & Pudlik families

HOPE'S FIRST MISSION PROJECT by Charlie Ledbetter

After the fall of Saigon in 1975, thousands of Vietnamese fled their country. Before Hope had a permanent building or solid financial support, three families (Haruf, Metcalf, and Pudlik) led the effort to sponsor and support the Cao family.

When the project began the family consisted of eight people: a grandmother, mother, four boys and two girls. When the group met the family at the airport, they were carrying all of their belongings in a few suitcases made of cardboard & fabric.

The Hope team helped the eight-member family settle into a two-bedroom apartment, enroll in school, find clothes, and provided food.

One early food purchase was a 100-pound sack of rice, soon followed by another purchase but of a different variety. A couple of weeks later the mom lifted one used sack and said “#1 Rice,” then lifted the other and frowning, said “#10 Rice.” The team knew which bag of rice to purchase.

Months later, news arrived that the missing father and grandfather were alive in a refugee camp. Their joyful reunion at the airport marked a turning point. The father, Kim Cao, worked as a tailor, and the children became successful members of Denver’s Vietnamese community.

This first mission project reflects the words of Matthew 25:35-40 and is part of our heritage and legacy. We thank God for the Cao family and our pioneers’ efforts to assist them in their time of need.

Ann Fort’s Legacy of Servanthood by Linda Brooks

In the 30 years Ann Fort was a member of Hope church, she was a mover and shaker and the definition of servanthood surely has Ann Fort’s name next to it. Her heart for mission, led to the start of the Christian Mission Outreach Team. Over the years she drew people in, enlisting help with projects to fulfill the needs of others and certainly the hearts of the volunteers. Long time congregants will remember participating in activities led by Ann or Jim Fort.

After Jim’s death in 1996, Ann knew she needed to find a greater purpose to carry her forward. Her passion for mission work stirred when she became aware of the needs in Kenya. At the age of 74, Ann gathered a team, raised money, planned a project, packed her bags, and traveled to Kenya to complete the work set out to do. Like every good romance, she fell in love with the people and the country. She made 19 more annual trips to Kenya, each with another mission project, changing the lives of those she served, but also team members who traveled with her. Ann never met anyone she did not befriend. She has left a deep legacy in Kenya and Hope. It is no surprise she’s lovingly known as: Mother Ann, Mother Fort, Saint Ann, etc., in Kenya and here at home.



Ann’s inspiration lives on as we pursue mission work that changes lives. There will never be another Ann Fort, but we can continue to live by her personal mantra and her favorite hymn, *Lord, Send Me*.

You may read more about Ann’s life and her story as told to, and written by Hope member Shirley Meier. Copies of the book, *Ann Fort-Threads of a Splendid Life* can be found in the Hope Library.

Hope United Methodist Church
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WiFi: Hope Guest Password: Genesis01:03!

Rev. Jeff Rainwater, Lead Pastor
Pastor.Jeff@hope-umc.org

Rev. Haeil Park, Associate Pastor
Pastor.Haeil@hope-umc.org

Charlie Ledbetter | Hope Historian
Jerry Brewster | Coffee
Sally & Dan Graham | Greeters
Neill Kipp & Ashlyn Stapleton | Liturgists
Chris Wiant | Sound
Mary Jane Harmony | Slides
John Frank | Livestream
Pat Lozier | Lead Usher
Chris Brooks Linda Brooks
Christina Frank John Tripp | Ushers

We would like to express our extreme gratitude to those who help before, during, and after worship. We could not do this without you!

Larry Meerdink Music Director
Cheryl Saborsky CAGO, Organist
Anne Rowland Red Sea Youth Band
Craig Laumann Chancel Bells
Pam Jewett, Auriel Ramsey Treasurers
Julie Holt Assistant to the Treasurer
Scott Senter Director of Technology
Jane Uylaki Membership Secretary

Kate Stapleton Dir. of Children's Ministries
Brittany Buse Childcare Coordinator
Wendy Wall Director of Communications
Allison Eckert Director of Operations
Ashley Hastedt PDO & Preschool Director
Sara Lowe PDO & Preschool Assistant Dir.
Melissa Trujillo PDO Assistant to the Dir.
Charlie Neuscheler Maintenance