

HCC News

Serve

- **2017 Giving Statements.** Statements were mailed out this week. **NOTE:** If you gave on 12.31.17, due to a processing error, those donations were omitted from the statements. Updated Giving statements are available at the Welcome Desk today, or will be mailed out tonight. Apologies for the error.
- **ESL Help Needed.** The ESL Thursday evening program has taken off and is in need of help with childcare and a homemade snack each week. If you can help with childcare please contact Leah Artman, leahgrace.blessed@gmail.com, and if you can help with snacks, please see Yvette Eldabaa or signup under Registrations on the website under Portal.
- **Symphony Nursing Home.** Join us for this monthly volunteer opportunity. **Tomorrow** night, February 5th, 6:30-7:30 pm, the Women of Hope spend time with the residents, but **ALL are welcome** to join, including children. Contact Karen Gardner with questions, gardnerk4@aol.com.
- **Olmsted Falls Food Pantry--** There is need for mac & cheese and canned fruit. Donations of any non-perishable food items are appreciated. We can also re-use your plastic store bags for food distribution. See full list of needed items at Welcome Desk.
- **A Way to support Hope in the new year!** Hope Community Capital Development. In 2018 we hope to make some significant capital investments beyond what the budget will permit. By faith we are asking God for \$50,000. You can contribute by using a Hope offering envelope; in the "Other" line write HCC Capital Development, or selecting that line item in online giving.

Student Ministries

- **The Way (High School Youth Group)** All High Schoolers are welcome at The Way! We meet from 6:00-8:00PM every Sunday night in the Multi-Purpose Room (Gym) at Hope. We play creative group games, laugh, learn about Jesus, and we're discovering The Way to contagious abundant life together. You're always welcome to bring friends along with you! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Pastor Josiah at josiah.stumbo@hopeolmsted.org.
- **Wildfire (Middle School Youth Group).** Attention Middle Schoolers! Join us at Wildfire every Wednesday night from 7:00-8:30. You'll make friends, play games, eat snacks and grow in your faith—all in one place! And as always, feel free to bring friends with you!
- **Student Ministries Mission Trip With Envision Cleveland June 9th-15th:** Current 7th-12th graders are invited to apply for the Summer Mission Team. We're partnering with Envision Cleveland, the Short-Term Missions arm of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. This will not only be an opportunity to serve in Cleveland, but **also** a serious discipleship opportunity for students. Please let Pastor Josiah know if you are interested in learning more. All paperwork and deposits will be **due by March 4th.**



All our events can be found on our website:
www.hopeolmsted.org.
App store: Hope Olmsted
You can also connect with us on social media:
Facebook: Hope Community Church



February 4, 2018

Pastor Joel Bubna

6941 Columbia Road, Olmsted Falls, OH 44138
(440) 427-4635
Sunday 9:00 and 10:45



Member of the Christian & Missionary Alliance

Hope Community Church God, does suffering have meaning?

John 16:29-33 / Hebrews 6:19-20 / Romans 5:1-5

February 4, 2018

Pastor Joel Bubna

God is grieved by our grief and suffering. Nowhere does the Bible celebrate suffering. However, the scriptures affirm that God uses the suffering in our lives for His glory and our good.

Christianity teaches that suffering has meaning. It is often in suffering that character is formed and we are given opportunity to most eloquently honor and glorify God.

The Bible does not answer all the why questions concerning suffering, but it does teach believers where to turn when life hurts most.

Jesus' concluding words to his friends the night before he died were comforting and sobering:

"I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:19-20

Where do you turn when life hurts most?

Meaning and comfort are found at the cross

The cross is the centerpiece of the story of God.

"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf." Hebrews 6:19-20

I. At the cross God's love is undeniable.

"We may not know the reason God allows evil and suffering to continue, or why at times it seems so random, but now (because of the cross) at least we know what the reason is not. It cannot be that he does not love us. It cannot be that he does not care. He is so committed to our ultimate happiness that he was willing to plunge into the greatest depths of suffering himself." Tim Keller

II. The cross says God allows freedom but He is in control.

It is a paradox; men killed Jesus and He allowed them to do it, yet the whole time he was in control.

III. God can use the worst circumstances for eternal purposes. Romans 5:1-5

Jesus promised peace. The peace is in him!

HCC News

• **Visiting Hope for the first time? Welcome!** Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the lobby. We want to say hello and we have a small gift for you.

Connect

- **How to register for classes and events?** On the website calendar www.hopeolmsted.org. Events.
- **Ready to get connected in the new year?** See the full list of Spring Classes at the Welcome Desk.
- **ALPHA. Got questions about life?** Explore life & the Christian faith with ALPHA! We meet for dinner, a talk & conversation around the table. Bring a friend who wants to know more about faith. Register online on website calendar. When: **Tuesdays at 6:30pm** for 11 weeks. Cost: Free.
- **Women of Hope February Gathering.** We are taking our monthly gathering on the road. Please join us at Pinot's Palette in Grand Pacific Junction. The night will be filled with faith, fellowship and food. Whether you consider yourself an artist or not, you'll enjoy a night out painting with step by step instructions from a talented instructor. Feel free to invite other women. Registration is **required**. See event on website calendar for registration link to Pinot's Palette with **updated** payment alternatives. February 19th, 6:45. Cost \$35.
- **EPIC (50+) PIZZA and MOVIE NIGHT. Saturday, February 10 at 5:00.** (Note time) Bring a friend! Sign up on line so we can know how much pizza is needed. Donations can be given that night. Please let Renee know at rnd0919@gmail.com if you would be willing to bring a dessert or if you have questions.
- **MUMs.** Next meeting February 8th 10 am. Join us as we dig into who we really are in order to revitalize our spiritual life and lead us to the fulfillment of our God-given destiny and vocation, using the book *The Gift of Being Yourself* by David G. Benner. Questions, contact Lesley Placeway at jlplaceway@yahoo.com.
- **Men Of Hope (MOH) Bible Study.** Jesus and coffee on February 10th, 7:30-9:00 am. Questions? Email Kris Bosworth at kjbosworth@yahoo.com.
- **Young Adult Ministry** - Meeting Tuesday, February 13th, 7 pm, room 109. Questions? Contact Dave & Jess Flegal at jessicaeflegal@gmail.com.
- **2018 FamilyLife "Weekend to Remember."** The marriage conference is in Cleveland on March 2-4 and Akron on March 23-25. Please see Scott and Cindy Grove or email them at slgrove@cox.net for more information.
- **Prayer meeting.** Thursdays 7-8 pm in the office. All are welcome!
- **Weekly Prayer Letter/Prayer requests.** If you'd like to be included on the prayer letter distribution list, or have prayer requests, praise reports email to prayer.request@hopeolmsted.org.
- **2018 Sunday Music Playlist** Want access to the music we are using at our Sunday services? Go to the Media tab on our website (www.hopeolmsted.org/) to find a youtube playlist you can listen to all week!

continued on next page