

Hello Hope Church,

In a week when we are told that we must shelter-in-place for another month (through May 31) and that the reopening of churches will be "months away", it is so easy for us to be discouraged and give up. That's natural. But, as we are reminded by the apostle Paul...

***"We also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us."*** (Romans 5:3-5)

Rejoice in our sufferings?? Yep! Why? Because, we know that when we persevere through our struggles, God does a miraculous work in us believers -- transforming our character and taking us from the depths of discouragement to the mountaintop of hope! Don't we have an awesome God?!

In the spirit of fostering hope, in addition to our regular weekly gatherings (Sunday worship live-stream, kids times on Sundays and Wednesdays, Monday bible studies, and Wednesday youth group), the following are additional programs NEXT WEEK for you to attend with your friends at Hope Church...

- **MAY 6 (7pm) ZOOM TRAINING:** Hosted by David Anderson. For anyone who has never used Zoom web-conferencing. Prerequisites: Email David (dzanderson@yahoo.com) if planning to attend AND, beforehand, watch the Zoom training video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E> .
- **MAY 7 (7pm) SPIRITUAL GIFTS CLASS:** Hosted by Pastor Kevin. For everyone! This is the first of four classes (on every Thursday in May) that will be covering the definition, distribution, development, and deployment of our spiritual gifts.
- **MAY 8 (7pm) CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** Hosted by the elders and pastor. For everyone! An update from the leadership of Hope Church with a brief time for Q&A.

ALL of the above meetings will be held on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4189689191> .

While attendance via Zoom is much preferred, for those off-the-grid types, the Congregational Meeting on May 8 will also be available via telephone at (669) 900-6833 (using meeting ID 4189689191).

We love you all and hope to "see" you many times next week! In His hope,

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