



# HOPE<sup>3</sup> Ministries News

## ~ Anniversary Edition ~

Spring 2017

### It's Time to Celebrate Five Years of HOPE<sup>3</sup> Ministries, Inc.



In February, HOPE<sup>3</sup> Ministries celebrated five years of being an incorporated ministry! Some of you have heard this story a time or two, but it bears repeating: The idea of HOPE<sup>3</sup> was conceived during Deb Leeper's participation in the Walk to Emmaus program. On April 30, 2009, God called her, alongside her husband, Richard, to accomplish a very special project for Him. The project has come to be known as the HOPE<sup>3</sup> Weekend.

As it turns out, HOPE<sup>3</sup> Ministries grew far bigger than just the weekend program. In fact, the Leepers and an early group of advisors knew that the foundation of a nonprofit corporation would be required to carry out the mission of this special call.

The necessary Articles of Incorporation were submitted to the State Corporation Commission of the Commonwealth of Virginia on January 28, 2012 and, after three weeks of anxious waiting, **on February 17, 2012, HOPE<sup>3</sup> Ministries received the Certificate of Incorporation from the Commission.** It was official. A board of directors was formed, a website was created and the curriculum team for the Weekend started meeting. What an achievement!

One year later, on March 13, 2013, HOPE<sup>3</sup> Ministries received notification of its 501(c)(3) status by the Internal Revenue Service, allowing the ministry to collect tax-deductible donations from its friends and supporters. In May 2014, the first HOPE<sup>3</sup> Weekend was held. In addition, a Bible Study group started meeting, and monthly Family Fun gatherings began in August 2012.

We rejoice in the ups and downs of the last five years. What a wonderful journey it has been. Dozens of servants have contributed to the vision and mission of this ministry, and hundreds of folks from all walks of life have been impacted by its programming.

We at HOPE<sup>3</sup> Ministries are thankful to God for His faithful guidance and direction along the way, and we are looking forward to what the future holds. Join us in celebrating this special anniversary and the achievements of the last five years. We know the best is yet to come!

*"They celebrate your abundant goodness  
and joyfully sing of your righteousness."*

*~ Psalm 145:7*

## Bible Study: Join the Adventure

HOPE<sup>3</sup> Ministries' Bible Study group has been meeting since 2010. The group typically meets on Thursday nights, gathering at 6:30 PM for a meal and fellowship before digging into the Word in the cozy living room of Peaceful Point Farm.

Folks come as they are. Sometimes directly from work. Sometimes distracted by life's cares. Sometimes not having read the week's scriptures. Sometimes not brave enough to join the evening's discussion, but always intently listening for the message.

All are welcome as they are, and most weeks, animated conversation ensues. This Currently, the HOPE<sup>3</sup> Bible Study is in the third year of a three-year chronological study of the Bible. They have been in the Garden of Eden; they have seen Daniel in the lion's den. They have wandered with the Israelites and wondered why Job had to suffer so much.

And, finally, they will begin to dive into the New Testament at the beginning of April. The complete reading schedule can be found at [www.hope3ministries.com](http://www.hope3ministries.com). If you've ever wanted to read through the Gospel and the Letters in chronological order, here is your opportunity.

Join us for the beloved stories of Christmas and Easter; Christ's parables, the ser-

mon on the mount; and the treasured verses of Corinthians and Romans: there is so much to (re)discover in the New Testament, and this spring is your opportunity to join the adventure.

Weekly attendance is not required. Join us one week or all, or just read along the schedule with the group. Do you remember

Zacchaeus? Stephen? Andrew? Can you name the twelve Apostles? We are so excited to continue to explore the holy scriptures through reading, asking questions and respectfully conversing with each other.

Will you come?



## Bowling Green CommUNITY Music Festival



HOPE<sup>3</sup> Ministries is excited to announce that we will be sponsoring the first-ever Bowling Green CommUNITY Music Festival on Saturday, April 1, 2017, from 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM. The Festival will be held at Union Station in Bowling Green (114 N. Main Street).

The Festival's theme is "Celebrating Caroline Diversity" with acts participating from local area churches and headliners arriving from as far as South Carolina.

The Festival will feature an eclectic array of music in the diverse styles of Bluegrass, Gospel, Rock, Soul, Blues & Folk.

Confirmed to participate in the Festival are the Dixie Bells, Jay Johnson & Friends, Robbie Caruthers & Friends., and Christine & Aiden.

If you live in Central Virginia, we hope you will come out for this exciting event, that aims to bring folks from different walks of life together in community, enjoying a day filled with music.



## Call for Participants: May 2017 Weekend (Men)

Is there someone with whom you would like to spend eternity, but who has not found their way to Christ? The HOPE<sup>3</sup> Weekend is designed to reach folks just like that, and aims to teach them the basics of Christianity.

Our May 2017 Weekend is for men, and is scheduled for May 18-21, 2017. To apply to be a participant (seed) for this Weekend, please download the applications at <http://hope3ministries.org/project/hope3-weekend/> and mail them to PO Box 444, Ruther Glen, VA 22546 or e-mail them to [hope3ministries@gmail.com](mailto:hope3ministries@gmail.com). Each Weekend is able to accommodate up to eight participants, who are considered in the order in which their applications are received.

The HOPE<sup>3</sup> Weekend is held at a quiet, rural setting where the distractions of life can be set aside for three days. This provides all of the participants a peaceful atmosphere that is both uncomplicated and relaxing. The weekend also provides chances for seeds to participate in a variety of activities. These include time for reflection, prayer, and relaxation in a beautiful, natural setting. Food and fellowship are an integral part of the experience.

Have someone in mind? Let us know at [hope3ministries@gmail.com](mailto:hope3ministries@gmail.com) and we will be glad to reach out to them.

*"Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."*

*~Matthew 13:8*

## Sponsorship: Will You Serve?

Have you been thinking about how you might become involved with HOPE<sup>3</sup> Ministries? Our Weekend seeds are typically invited to participate in the program by a sponsor. Could this be you?

Your responsibilities? The sponsor gets the seed to and from the Weekend and also participates in several activities during the Weekend which actively demonstrate their support for the seed and his/her family.

A critical element to sponsorship happens

after the Weekend. Sponsors commit to a follow-up mentorship with their seeds. By doing this, they are coming alongside them during an important growing stage. In this manner, sponsors directly assist in nurturing the seeds in their budding faith.

In order for this to happen, HOPE<sup>3</sup> provides sponsor training that explains the Weekend and post-Weekend obligations. Sponsors are provided resource materials to assist them in working with their seed

and his/her family both before and after the Weekend experience.

Again, could this be you? Do you know someone in your life who could benefit from this program and your servanthip? If so, we want to talk to you! Call us at 804-858-HOPE (4673) and we will be happy to answer questions you might have. We look forward to hearing from you!



## Coming Up at HOPE<sup>3</sup> Ministries in Spring '17

HOPE<sup>3</sup> Ministries events are open to all who wish to experience God's love through fellowship or study of His Word. Come as you are!

Our weekly Bible Study is in the third year of a three-year chronological study of the Bible, but folks can join in at any time in the journey. Bible Study begins each Thursday with a meal at 6:30 PM to enjoy fellowship before diving into the Word.

Our monthly Family Fun event kicks off with a home-cooked meal at 5:30 PM, followed by an activity such as a concert, movie, crafts, hymn sing, or games. Get ready to have some good, Christian fun!

If you would like more information about the upcoming events for our ministry, please contact us at <http://hope3ministries.org/contact/> or the phone number or e-mail address below.

March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30	Bible Study
April 6, 13, 20 & 27	Bible Study
April 30	Family Fun
May 4, 11 & 25	Bible Study
May 18-21	HOPE <sup>3</sup> Weekend (Men)
June 25	Family Fun
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And coming in the fall:	
September 14-17, 2017	HOPE <sup>3</sup> Weekend (Women)



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**WE ARE CALLED TO SHARE JOYFULLY THE KNOWLEDGE AND LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST THROUGH A VARIETY OF EDUCATIONAL AND RELIGIOUS PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES, AND CONTINUAL NURTURING.**