

# Connecting Hope

Spring 2018

## Many Hands Make Hope

Do you want to serve the Lord in your community? Do you desire to lead your family in reaching out to those in need around you? Do you hope to give more than money towards the kingdom of God? Yes?

Serving God is not always something people do far away in a foreign land or on the streets of a big city. You can give of yourself right here in Central Vermont. You give a financial tithe to your church, why not give a talent tithe?

Connecting Hope is seeking members of the body of Christ willing to give of their time and skills to bring the message of God's love to our communities. Do you enjoy answering phones, cooking meals, shoveling snow, raking leaves, scraping paint, or planting flowers? Do you have the skills to replace windows, build a wheelchair ramp, repair cars or create video presentations? Would you offer a ride to an individual needing transportation to a medical appointment? Use the skills God has given you for His Kingdom and experience the blessing that comes with serving Him.



Use the skills God has given you for His Kingdom and experience the blessing that comes with serving Him.

**Contact Connecting Hope to find out how to join our volunteers in serving Central Vermont.**

(802) 622-4244 or [connectinghopevct@gmail.com](mailto:connectinghopevct@gmail.com)



## Volunteer Training

April 21st

9 am—12 pm + Lunch

Additional sessions 1—3 pm

Barre Evangelical Free Church  
17 South Main Street in Barre

Contact Connecting Hope to register!

802 622-4244

[Connectinghopevct@gmail.com](mailto:Connectinghopevct@gmail.com)

## More ways to volunteer in this issue!

- \* Hopeline
- \* Operation Winter Hope
- \* Summer Missions Projects
- \* Connecting Hope Board of Directors
- \* Annual Event



## The Hopeline

**The Hopeline** is more than just a hotline for those in need—it is an opportunity to reach the lost and needy with the love of Jesus Christ. Relationship building happens with each contact. With every communication, volunteers will directly affect how folks perceive the Church and Jesus Christ.

**In January**, the Hopeline assisted ten households in need. One home was in need of firewood. Three area churches got involved to insure that this family would not struggle to keep their home warm. A young man had no food at home. Connecting Hope assisted him with some groceries and helped him connect with area food shelves. In another home, the freezing temperatures caused pipes to freeze. The family was unable to do laundry. Connecting Hope met them at the laundromat and paid for the wash. The family revealed that they had been driving on a donut tire and could not afford safe tires for winter. Connecting Hope assisted with the tires and is working to connect them with a local church.

**In February**, the Hopeline assisted eight households. One woman suffered a small kitchen fire. Connecting Hope volunteers contributed over 70 hours of work to help her. Her apartment was made safe and livable again. Volunteers also assisted an elderly woman by providing transportation to Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. Connecting Hope was able to connect another home in need of assistance with a local church that could meet their need and form a deeper relationship with while sharing the love of Jesus.

**In March**, the list has continued to grow. Families in need reach out hoping to find someone to help them. Connecting Hope tries to fill physical needs in hopes of developing relationships that will address deeper spiritual need for God. Each call is wrapped up with a simple question, “Can I pray for you?” We pray for God’s presence to be felt and for His love to surround these folks in the midst of struggle.

### Would you like to join the Hopeline team?

We need volunteers to answer calls and complete an intake form with new clients. Other volunteers are needed to assist in meeting the needs of callers by visiting homes, delivering groceries, providing transportation, and building a relationship that points them to Christ. Contact Susan at (802) 622-4244 or [connectinghopevct@gmail.com](mailto:connectinghopevct@gmail.com).

## OPERATION WINTER HOPE

Connecting Hope is partnering with local ministries, agencies and mission teams from around the country to reach out to homes in need of efficiency upgrades. We will install LED lightbulbs, showerheads, aerators, and address other efficiency needs. Our expectation is that electric and water costs will decrease significantly each month for many of these homes. Additionally, we will assist folks to connect with local agencies and resources.



***This is a monumental task! The work begins with people just like you.***

We need **30** folks willing to visit homes to evaluate the needs before teams begin the work. No skills required - just a willing heart. Teams of two or three will be sent out with a quick survey in hand. How many lightbulbs are needed? Is there a showerhead to be replaced? Are there other issues that must be addressed to make this home comfortable and safe? These volunteers will be the first opportunity to share the love of Jesus to these folks.

Work teams of volunteers and missionaries will return to the homes to make the upgrades. They will also assist folks to enroll in 3 Squares Vermont (Food Stamps) and Meals on Wheels. These volunteers will be the second opportunity to share the love of Jesus with these folks.

**We will not only be working in homes, we will be working in hearts.** Our hope is that those who live there will see the love of God demonstrated through our service, through the way we treat one another and through the way we care for the individuals in that home. We will share our hope and faith in Jesus through Word and deed.

### What can you do to join this effort?



Connecting Hope needs your heart, your hands and your prayers. Join us in the work of loving on folks, many of whom are shut-ins unable to attend church or social groups. Join us in the labor, installing aerators, showerheads and LED bulbs. Join us in prayer, petitioning the Spirit of the Living God to move in our own hearts and in the hearts of those we come in contact with so that God is glorified and souls are won for the Kingdom of God.



## ~The Goal of Service~

*Pastor Russ Rathier  
Washington Baptist Church*

Those of us who serve in a Compassion Ministry like Connecting Hope have truly come to understand the meaning of Servanthood. While the ultimate goal is to present the Life Saving Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Gift of Eternal Life, the reality is people really don't care what we know until they know we care. In most instances one needs to earn the right to be heard. Being a Servant of Jesus Christ means we observe the physical needs but realize that is just a surface wound for a much deeper

need. As we meet the physical need we must always do so while staying in constant touch with God through prayer – prayer before we meet with the person – prayer while we meet with the person – prayer with the person – and follow up with praying for the person we served. Pray for their physical needs but never forget to pray for their Salvation through Jesus Christ. Pray for them to get to the Cross. After all God did put that one person in our path to serve.

The Biblical example that seems fitting for our meditation at this time is the House of Lazarus and his sisters Martha and Mary in the town of Bethany. This account is in John's Gospel in chapters 11 and 12. As Jesus approaches Bethany in Chapter 11, Martha goes out to Him and explain the situation, she speaks to the Humanity of Jesus. When Mary reaches Jesus she falls at His feet and Worships Him, Mary focuses on the Divinity of Jesus. Same thing in Chapter 12, Martha does all the preparation and serving while Mary sits and Worships. Jesus is fully God and fully man and here in Bethany both realms are brought together.

As we go forth and serve all who God brings to us we must never just meet the physical need without addressing the Spiritual need. And please, follow up and stay in contact to the best of our ability with the folks we serve. My prayer is that once they are served and meet Jesus then they will become servants as well and join in the Harvest.

**“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who wins souls is wise.” (Proverbs 11:30)**

## Welcome New Member Churches



### Corinth Bible Church

Corinth Bible Church exists to exalt Christ by proclaiming His Word and demonstrating the power and gifts from His Holy Spirit to a world in need of Hope, Truth and Life only found in Jesus. We are called to make disciples ready to walk with the Lord in loving obedience through life's challenges, transformed daily into His image, and prepared to make disciples likewise patterned after Christ.

Every life entrusted to Him, Jesus makes new. The Church is overseen by Nathan Old and his family.

*Pastor Nathan and Sarah Old*

A shy introvert who disliked and distrusted people, Nathan, upon conviction and repentance of the sin of “The Fear of Man” which kept him trapped, opened himself up to “Trust the Lord” which brings safety and confidence (Proverbs 29:25). God took over, called him to Vermont (from Kansas) and established him as a Pastor who walks with people and longs to see them set free from their own entrapments.



### Covenant Orthodox Presbyterian Church

Covenant Presbyterian Church, a congregation of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, began its ministry to the Central Vermont area with a weekly Bible study in 1983. The work was founded by Pastor Ray Commeret and his wife Rosemary. By God's Grace the church grew and in December of 1988 Covenant was accorded the status of a particular congregation by the Presbytery of New York and New England.

In 2003, Pastor Carl Durham became the pastor and has ministered to the congregation until the present time. He is a graduate of King's College, University of Aberdeen, Scotland. Carl and his wife Olivia live in Barre town and have 3 grown children. Under the ministry of Pastor Durham, the congregation continues to grow in

*Pastor Carl Durham*

the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

After much prayer and preparation, in 2007 the Lord provided a building on a beautiful five-acre plot on Airport Road in Barre Town. Covenant Presbyterian Church remains committed to proclaiming the whole counsel of God as found in the Bible, His holy Word. We seek to obey our Lord in supporting world missions and works of mercy. One of the local ministries we support is Christian Counseling & Mediation. Dr. Andrew Selle, heads up this ministry of biblical counseling and peace-making.

## 2018 Annual Meeting

*Pastor Dan Molind, Enough Ministries*

As the Chairman of the Board for Connecting Hope it gives me great pleasure to share with you how God has been moving this organization over the last year. From new member churches, to evangelism, to changed lives, Connecting Hope has been sharing God's love in some amazing ways. I am so very grateful for all the organizations and individuals who have worked and sacrificed so much to accomplish this work.

We are now preparing for our annual meeting and celebration of all God has done through Connecting Hope. I'm hopeful that you will all attend this time of fellowship, and thanksgiving.

At the annual meeting we have a few pieces of business we need to attend to as well. With new churches joining Connecting Hope we desire greater representation on the board, especially from laypeople so that everyone feels well represented. This year we are also thanking Charlie Mulcahy for his long tenure on the board, as well as Gordy Wells our board treasurer, and Terry Somaini our bookkeeper. We are seeking nominations to these positions and would encourage you or someone you know to look into picking up these responsibilities to help propel Connecting Hope forward this coming year.

I'm excited for God's work being accomplished and look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting.

God bless, Dan



*Pastor Dan and Cathy Molind*

## Connecting Hope Executive Board

**Dan Molind**, Chairman  
Enough Ministries

**Rosaire Bisson**, Vice Chairman  
Christ Community Alliance

**Gordon Wells**, Treasurer  
New Life Assembly

**Barbara McMahon**, Secretary  
Barre Evangelical Free Church

**Roland Metevier**  
Washington Baptist Church

**Charlie Mulcahy**  
Faith Community Church

## Member Churches

### Barre Evangelical Free Church

17 South Main Street, Barre, VT 05641  
802 476-5344 / [www.befcvt.org](http://www.befcvt.org)  
Services Sunday 8:00 and 10:45 am

### Christ Community Alliance Church

43 Berlin Street, Barre, VT 05641  
802 476-3221 / [www.christcommunity.org](http://www.christcommunity.org)  
Services Sunday 10:30 am, Thurs. 6:30 pm  
Meets in Orange, VT

### Corinth Bible Church

840 Center Road, Corinth, VT 05039  
802 439-5060  
Services Sunday 10:30 am

### Covenant Orthodox Presbyterian Church

249 Airport Road, Barre, VT 05641  
802 479-2010 / [www.copcv.org](http://www.copcv.org)  
Services Sunday 10:30 am

### Crossroads Christian Church

115 Fasset Rd, E. Montpelier, VT 05651  
802 476-4843 / [www.crossroadschurchvt.org](http://www.crossroadschurchvt.org)  
Services Sunday 9:30 am

### East Barre Congregational Church

2 Church Street, East Barre, VT 05649  
(802) 476-6454 / [www.eastbarrechurch.org](http://www.eastbarrechurch.org)  
Services Sunday 10:30 am, Wednesday 5:30

### Enough Ministries

84 Summer Street, Barre, VT 05641  
Facebook: [@enoughministriesbarre](https://www.facebook.com/enoughministriesbarre)  
Services Sunday 10:00 am

### Faith Community Church

30 Jones Brothers Way, Barre, VT 05641  
(802) 476-8288 / [www.fccbarre.com](http://www.fccbarre.com)  
Services Sunday 10:00 am

### First Baptist Church

24 Washington Street, Barre, VT 05641  
(802) 479-2872 / [www.fbcbarre.com](http://www.fbcbarre.com)  
Services Sunday 10:00 am

### New Life Assembly

304 Hill Street, Barre, VT 05641  
(802) 479-9867 / [www.newlifeassemblyvt.org](http://www.newlifeassemblyvt.org)  
Services Sunday 10:00 am, Wednesday 6:30

### Washington Baptist Church

2973 VT Rte 110, Washington, VT 05675  
802 883-5509 / [www.washingtonbaptistchurch.net](http://www.washingtonbaptistchurch.net)  
Services Sunday 10:00 am, Wednesday 5:30

## Connecting Hope

92 Summer Street, Suite 3  
Barre Vermont 05641  
(802) 622 - 4244

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