

## The "Center" of Hope by Adam Hofer



The CENTER of Hope is Jesus. At the Center of Hope, we are not ashamed of the Good News of Jesus. In fact, we are unapologetic that we exist to help our guests deepen their relationship with God. We recognize that Jesus is not just our greatest hope; He is our *only* hope. Due to our rebellious spirit and depravity, we deserve God's wrath for a holy and just God cannot turn a blind eye to sin. Yet, in our brokenness, God came incarnate through Jesus to pay the price for our transgressions on the cross. Because of his sacrifice, we can live life to the fullest right here right now, be assured of our eternal security, and have a lasting hope that drives us forward into his mission in the world. We cling to this reality as we engage our guests who are often hopeless. The majority of the people we serve are facing homelessness, addictions to various substances, and traumas from their past. Serving at the Center of Hope allows us to share the hope we find only in Christ with the struggling in Sioux Falls.

I reflected on this hope last week

when the staff and volunteers of the Center of Hope heard about the passing of our friend and co-worker, Gloria Weber. She was our Faith Community Nurse before she retired last December. We were all in shock when we heard the news because her death was sudden and unexpected. Many of us spoke with her a couple of days before she died because she came in to drop off a bunch of clothing donations. She was in good spirits, full of life. Gloria was known for her kind, hospitable heart and her ability to work hard to serve our guests. She will be dearly missed.

In the past week, death has been a constant theme as we have interacted with our guests. One of our guests' brothers died in a motorcycle accident, and he was doing his best to handle the news in healthy ways. Another guest lost an aunt to an overdose, which reminded him about where addiction often leads. Death is a reality that we all see and face. Yet, there is hope and the hope has a name: Jesus.

Scripture is clear. Romans 6:23 states: *"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."* Psalm 23:4 states: *"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."* Even though death is a reality in *this* world, the hope of Jesus is freely given to those in Him, which should give you comfort and boldness as you move forward in life. Yet, the pain of death demands to be felt and should be felt for when you lose someone, there is certainly a *temporary* loss. We must be empathetic and present with those struggling from a loss of a loved one for death is unnatural and a result of sin. Yet, there is hope in Christ. *"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"* Jesus has given us victory! Thus, we press on knowing there is hope and the "center" of that hope is Jesus.





**VOLUNTEER AS A REGISTERED NURSE**

**MORE INFORMATION :**  
 Phone: (605) 334-9789  
 Email: [clinic@centerofhopesf.org](mailto:clinic@centerofhopesf.org)

**CENTER OF HOPE**

## Center of Hope Free Evening Clinic — We need YOU!

The Center of Hope Free Evening Clinic for the uninsured is in desperate need of Registered Nurse volunteers. If you would like to serve in this capacity or know someone who would be interested, we would be so blessed if you reached out to us! We could use your help to ensure the continued care of our guests.

### You Are Invited! Fall Benefit 2023

On Saturday, November 11, from 5:30pm to 8:00pm at Sioux Falls Christian, we will be having our annual Fall Benefit. There will be a delicious meal, silent auction, guest testimonials, and MORE! On top of that, we will NOT be charging for tickets this year due to the generosity of our sponsors. Please invite your friends and family to celebrate with us what God has

been doing at the Center of Hope. All for HIS glory and honor! Please RSVP on our website: <https://www.centerofhopesf.org/events-1/fall-benefit-2023>



### Sharing Christmas — Get Involved!

Are you in the Christmas spirit? If so, we would love to bless you with service opportunities in our Sharing Christmas program! You could be a donor or you could volunteer! If interested in participating in the Sharing Christmas program, please reach out to Adam Hofer (Center of Hope) via email at [adam@centerofhopesf.org](mailto:adam@centerofhopesf.org) or Nate Rygh (The Community Outreach) via email at [nate@thecommunityoutreach.org](mailto:nate@thecommunityoutreach.org). We would love to partner with you this Christmas season!

### Mission:

The Center of Hope exists to walk alongside people, to bring spiritual and physical health, and ultimately to change the community one life at a time.

### Vision:

The Center of Hope encourages and mentors people with the hope of redemption through Jesus Christ. Our focus is holistically addressing physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of individual that can only come through creating relationship and accountability. We work in partnership with community organizations to engage in a consistent and positive interaction with guests.

### Principles:

1. All people are created in God's image.
2. Self sufficiency
3. Holistic Ministry
4. Reconciliation
5. Partnering to Serve

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

*Center of Hope appreciates the gifts In Memory of — Wilbert Gene Van Hill, Audrey Jean Watzek, Sid Phelps, Arvin Tilstra, Clarence Smit, Karen Donth, George Vietor, David Dubois, Nancy Teerink, and Gloria Weber*

### Your Gifts Change Lives:

**Stock or Commodity Gifts**—Talk to your financial advisor about gifting stocks and commodities to the Center of Hope.

**Make it Double**—Check with your employer to see if they will match your charitable contributions to the Center of Hope.

**Be a Sustainer of Hope**—A **monthly gift** will bring stability to individuals and families. Give online at: [www.centerofhopesf.org](http://www.centerofhopesf.org)

### Financial Update

*Fiscal year runs from April to March, for the year 2023-24*

*April—To Date. Income*  
 \$143,193

*2023-24 Budget Need*  
 \$381,265

**Help us save on postage by receiving your newsletter electronically! Send your email address to [info@centerofhopesf.org](mailto:info@centerofhopesf.org) Also, please let us know if we need to update your mailing address.**