



THE FRONT PORCH

Making Room for Families to Connect and Grow



A Case for Support for Hope Covenant Church
Chandler, Arizona





HOPE FOR OUR WORLD

HOPE Covenant Church is a grace-based family where **anyone can find and follow Jesus**. We are a community centered on the redeeming love of Christ and committed to living that love together: **learning to love God, love others, and follow Jesus** in the ordinary rhythms of life.

At HOPE, we believe transformation happens in relationship: with God, with one another, and with our neighbors. Ours is a church that **values authenticity over performance, grace over guilt, and belonging over perfection**.

We're a community where people from every background - lifelong believers, those exploring faith for the first time, and many who have been hurt or disillusioned by religion - can find safety, honesty, and hope. Together, we are learning what it means to be **the family of God, walking in grace and growing in love**.



INTRODUCTION: WHY THIS PROJECT, WHY NOW ?

Our mission is simple but powerful:

“To love God, love others, and follow Jesus together.”

It is more important than ever to fulfill that mission. We need space — space to connect with one another, to grow relationships, welcome our neighbors, and engage the next generation.



- 192 – HOPE’s average weekly attendance (up 5% since 2019)
- 291,000 – Chandler’s current population (and still growing!)
- 37 – Median age in Chandler; 35–54 is the largest demographic group
- 95,500 → 291,000 – Chandler’s population has tripled since HOPE's founding in 2000

THAT’S WHY HOPE COVENANT CHURCH IS LAUNCHING THE FRONT PORCH PROJECT, A TWO-PART INITIATIVE TO EXPAND OUR CAMPUS WITH NEW AREAS FOR GATHERING, RELATIONSHIP-BUILDING, AND MINISTRY.

THE CHALLENGE: CONNECTION IN A DISCONNECTED WORLD

Our church, like our city, is growing - but so are the challenges of building genuine community.

- **Our building is full.** The Worship Center is the only flexible space large enough for multiple ministries, and our lobby is just 1/8 the size of the worship area, far smaller than the ideal 1/3 that allows for natural interaction.
- **Summer heat limits fellowship.** With months of 100°+ weather, there's little shaded or comfortable space for conversation and gathering inside or outside.
- **Children, youth and families need a place to belong.** Students today face anxiety, isolation, and constant digital noise. They are searching for connection, and the church can be that place - an extended family where they are known and loved.
- **Post-COVID loneliness is still real.** Attendance has not only recovered but grown by 5% since 2019. Yet across Chandler and the East Valley, **many people are still longing for belonging.**

HOPE Covenant has always been known as a welcoming, grace-based, come-as-you-are family of faith. To continue living that out, **we need spaces where connection can happen naturally; spaces that allow people to stay long enough for real conversation to begin.**



THE VISION: TWO SPACES FOR CONNECTION AND GROWTH

The Front Porch

We want everyone in our community to know who we are and where we are. As our population has grown and opportunities for ministry have expanded, our front entry still feels closed off and uninviting. The Front Porch will change that. **It will turn our main entrance into a visible, welcoming space** that reflects the warmth and grace people experience inside our church.

The Front Porch will feature a **covered, climate-friendly outdoor pavilion** extending from the front of the church over the existing concrete patio that would transform our entryway into a hub of hospitality.

Features include:

- Shade, misters, ceiling fans, and heaters for year-round use
- Coffee bar and casual seating (couches, high-top tables)
- TVs and sound system for fellowship and events
- Fire pit and flexible lighting for warmth and atmosphere
- Space for all church events, BBQ's, youth events, small groups, community gatherings and impromptu discussions

The Front Porch will embody the welcome of Jesus. It will be a visible expression of our mission to love God, love others, and follow Jesus together – **a space that invites people to slow down, meet others, and experience the grace of belonging.**



THE FRONT PORCH



BEFORE

The Front Porch - a shaded, year-round outdoor gathering area where our church family and guests can connect, share coffee, and build community.

AFTER





THE VISION: TWO SPACES FOR CONNECTION AND GROWTH

The Family Commons

Our goal is to give **our next generation a home** at HOPE: a space for fun, faith, and friendship. This will **also serve adults for overflow seating, midweek small groups, and special events.**

This initiative reflects a commitment by our church leadership to **invest in children and young families**, both to grow our church and to meet a profound spiritual need in our world. Most people make a profession of faith between the ages of 4 and 14.

We are called to make disciples, and reaching children and youth, and their families, is a key aspect of living out that call.

Located just off the main entrance, the Family Commons will comprise a free-standing, flexible gathering space focused on children, youth, and family ministry.

Features include:

- A 40'x50' enclosed structure with turf flooring
- Arcade and game area for children and youth
- TVs and sound system for teaching, worship, and events
- Flexible layout for Sunday School, youth nights, or all-church events
- Misters, fans, and heaters for comfort
- A locked storage area - much needed for the church's ministry priorities



THE FAMILY COMMONS



BEFORE

The Family Commons - a flexible, family-friendly environment for children, youth, and adults to learn, play, and grow together.



AFTER



OUR GOAL: \$1 MILLION BY DECEMBER, 2028



The Front Porch Project launches in February, 2026. We invite our church family and friends of HOPE to make gifts and pledges to be completed by December, 2028. Funding Priorities:

- *Construction of The Front Porch Pavilion*
- *Construction of the Family Commons*
- *Furnishings, landscaping, and technology*
- *Campaign and design costs*



WHAT THIS PROJECT MAKES POSSIBLE

This campaign is about far more than buildings. It is about **creating spaces** where relationships can grow, faith can deepen, and our community can experience the welcome of God's family.

- **Hospitality and connection** before and after worship
- **Safe, shaded outdoor space** for fellowship and events
- **Dedicated youth and children's area** for play and discipleship
- **Flexible gathering space** for adults, small groups, and celebrations
- **Expanded community visibility** along the main road and opportunities to welcome new families



YOUR INVITATION: BE PART OF WHAT GOD IS DOING AT HOPE COVENANT

Every gift to The Front Porch Project **builds more than buildings** – it builds relationships that lead to transformed lives.

At HOPE, we are a grace-based family where anyone can find and follow Jesus. This campaign is an extension of that calling. Together, we are **creating room for more people to experience the love of Christ** through genuine connection and community.

Please take time to **pray and consider** how God may be inviting you to participate in this vision to **help us create spaces** where people can connect with God, one another, and our community.

Together, **we can build a Front Porch and Family Commons** that reflects who we truly are: a family of grace, becoming a church home where everyone belongs.

To Participate:

- **Pray for God's guidance** and for this project to deepen our unity and mission.
- Make a generous three-year **pledge** or one-time gift.
- **Volunteer** your time and skills to help build, decorate, or host.
- **Share** the vision with others who value community and faith.

Let's build the space that will help build disciples. **Let's make room for HOPE!**

**"THE FRONT PORCH PROJECT IS NOT ABOUT EXPANDING
OUR FOOTPRINT, BUT ABOUT EXTENDING OUR WELCOME"**

- PASTOR DOUG GLYNN

WAYS TO GIVE



PLEDGE: Please consider making a pledge for up to 3 years (through December 2028) – helps with budget planning.



IN PERSON: Give by cash or check during the worship service, or drop at the office. Specify funds are for the campaign.



ONLINE: Go to the HOPE website and click on “Giving.” You can give by credit card or from your checking account.



MAIL: Mail your payment to the church: HOPE Covenant Church, 1770 S. Dobson Road, Chandler, AZ 85286.



WIRE TRANSFER: Contact the church office at (480) 899-7255 for assistance on wiring funds directly to the church.

Giving beyond Cash and Credit Card

Consider giving in other ways that support the church and provide tax benefits.

IRA

IRA Rollover: Give directly from your IRA to HOPE, avoiding all income tax and maximizing your charitable tax deduction.

DAF

Donor Advised Fund: Give to HOPE directly from your DAF.



Appreciated Stock: Avoid capital gains taxes by giving stock that has grown in value.



Include HOPE in your estate plans: Make a gift to HOPE from your resources when you no longer need them.



Make HOPE a beneficiary of your life insurance policy



Personal Property: If you have a second home, a car, valuable artwork, or other personal property, please work with Debbie Selland.

For help with creative giving strategies, email: debbieselland@cox.net.

NOTES

