

# hope COMMUNITY CHURCH

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

**October 22, 2023**  
**Romans 15:14-33: Gathering Together**  
**Pastor Randy Brainard**

(14-19)

Why does Paul believe that the church in Rome will do well?

*...you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with knowledge and competent to instruct one another... (Romans 15:14)*





From sermon three weeks ago...

*When you join HOPE (get baptized, join a HG, ...), you become jointly responsible for making sure we continue to faithfully proclaim the gospel. This means you become jointly responsible for what is taught at this church and that your brothers and sisters remain faithful. (Matthew 18, 1 Corinthians 5)*

**Regular Gathering Together is Required!**

*Therefore, I glory in Christ Jesus in my service to God.  
(Romans 15:17)*



I delight in serving the Lord.

(20-24)

*Paul's ambition...to preach the Gospel where Christ is not yet known... (Romans 15:20)*

## **Regular Gathering Together is Required!**

(25-28)

Paul explains that at the current moment, he has a financial gift to deliver before he can visit the church in Rome.

*Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a contribution for the poor... (Romans 15:26)*

*“And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord’s people. And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.” (2 Corinthians 8:1–5)*

*“Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done.” (Proverbs 19:17)*





*“A generous church is a growing church.” Pastor Wilson*

## **Regular Gathering Together is Required!**

(29-33)

*...and in your company be refreshed... (Romans 15:32)*

### **συναναπαύομαι**

In other words, Paul is saying, I’m going to be refreshed as I refresh you. You will be refreshed as you refresh me.

*“I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong—that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other’s faith.” (Romans 1:11–12)*

Spiritual refreshment  
Mutual encouragement

## **Regular Gathering Together is Required!**

*“Jesus organized Christianity this way. He means to center our Christianity around regularly gathering together, seeing one another, learning from one another, encouraging and correcting one another, and loving one another. Spiritual things happen when Christians stand elbow to elbow, breathe the same air, join our voices in song, hear the same sermon, and partake of the one bread. You look around and think, “I’m not alone in this faith. What might we do together?”*  
(Rediscovering Church)

### Time of Prayer:

- For those we know not in fellowship
- War in Israel and Ukraine
- Marriages, families, and youth of Hope
- Staff and families
- Missionaries of Hope

## **Home Group Questions ...**

Practice the 4 D’s in your home group together and then pray for one another.

1. What is DELIGHTING you?
2. What is DRAINING you?
3. What are you DISCOVERING?
4. What are you DETERMINING to do?