

# May Special Offering – Journey of Hope

*By LeAnne Klemme, Evangelism and Outreach Board Member*

The May Special Offering supports Journey of Hope. This program was started in 2020 by Kari and Darin Palmer in memory of their son, Sven.

Sven was gifted with what his parents describe as an “old soul.” He had an innate ability to understand the troubles of this world at an early age. It wouldn't be long until depression and hopelessness planted in his mind, and he turned to “self-medicating,” using drugs and alcohol, hoping this would ease his pain and suffering. Sven always carried a blue tote with him wherever he went. This tote contained clean socks and basic hygiene items.

Sven's family hoped and prayed he would be able to recover and share his story of hopelessness to hope, but he passed away on February 19, 2020. Through his passing, his family learned how Sven was able to share hope through his music wherever his life took him.

Remember that little blue tote?

Through Sven, Kari and Darin continue to spread Christ's love to others through Journey of Hope. They developed a program to fill and give away blue Journey of Hope drawstring bags filled with hygiene items, socks, and words of inspiration for people experiencing mental health issues, incarceration, or homelessness.

As you read this brief article, prayerfully consider providing financial support or volunteering by filling those blue bags or

writing notes of encouragement. Use your special offering envelope or write Journey of Hope in the memo line of your check to contribute financially. Your donations are greatly appreciated and will be used to spread hope, grow compassion, and spark change!

