

MY**HOPE**ROCK.org



Even the
rocks cry out



MYHOPEROCK.org

Happiness can come in a variety of ways. It can come when you find a dollar in an old coat pocket or when you find your soul mate. Even finding a parking space can bring unbridled joy.

But what about hope? Hope is harder to come by than happiness.



MyHopeRock thinks that you might be able to find hope in a rock.

How's that going to lead you to hope? Sure, if it's a Kardashian-sized diamond. That might make your day. But what about a plain old chunk of shale or sandstone you'd find along a hiking trail or in a planter at your local grocery store?

How can a rock like that speak hope?

Jesus has told us in Luke 19 that even if his people are silenced the Rocks Will Cry Out, Jesus will be praised.

The MyHopeRock campaign aims to use simple painted rocks and the caring hands of Lutheran school students and church members to spark a movement in Orange County California. A movement away from a culture known for its consumption, affluence, and greed to a culture known for its Hope.

It will take a little effort. First, someone has to paint the rocks. Sometimes just bright colors, sometimes gorgeous scenes that look like they belong on canvas in a gallery.

Then, someone has to "hide" it where someone else can find it. And by hide we mean put it somewhere where you'll see it, but don't expect it. A park bench. A store shelf. The planter outside your local library.

It's kind of like an Easter egg hunt, "Except it's not an egg and it's not Easter".

One other difference? You don't really hunt for the rocks. You just come upon them.

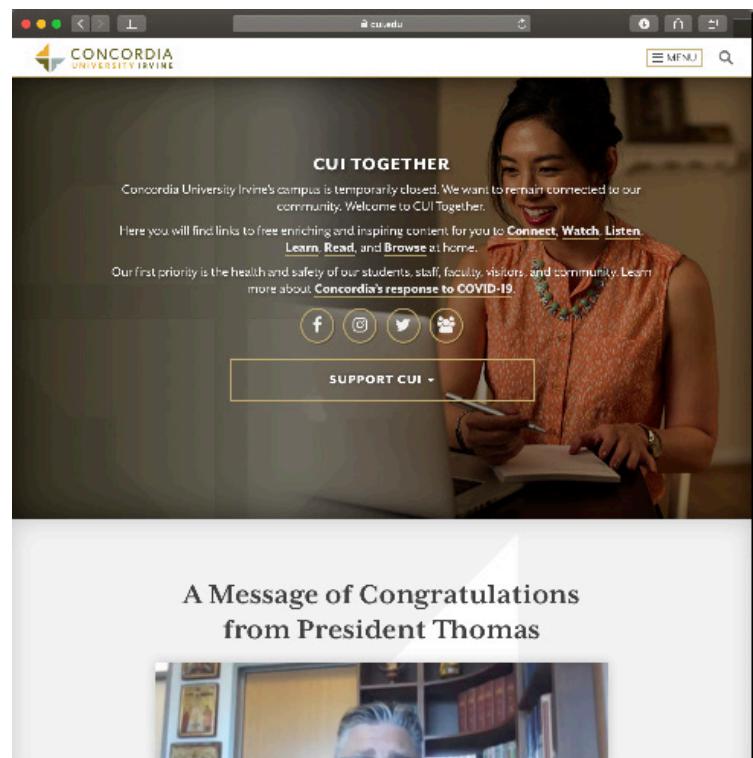


When a person finds a rock it will have a web-address you have written on the back - MyHopeRock.org.

At this website they will find resources that will encourage them toward Hope, the hope that we have in Jesus Christ. The website will be managed by Concordia University Irvine.

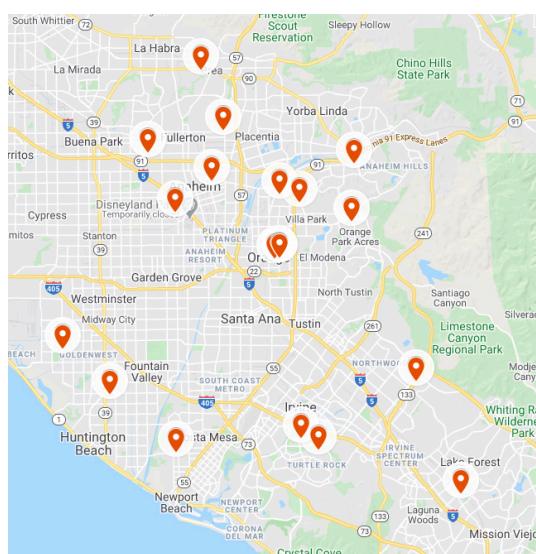
Through an archive of written pieces and video clips visitors will see the grace and love of Jesus reflected into the dark places of their lives. Visitors will be pointed toward hope.

In addition to the content there will be an opportunity to use provided maps to find a place of hope near them. Each of the LCMS churches and schools in Orange County will be listed with contact information and links to their institutions websites.

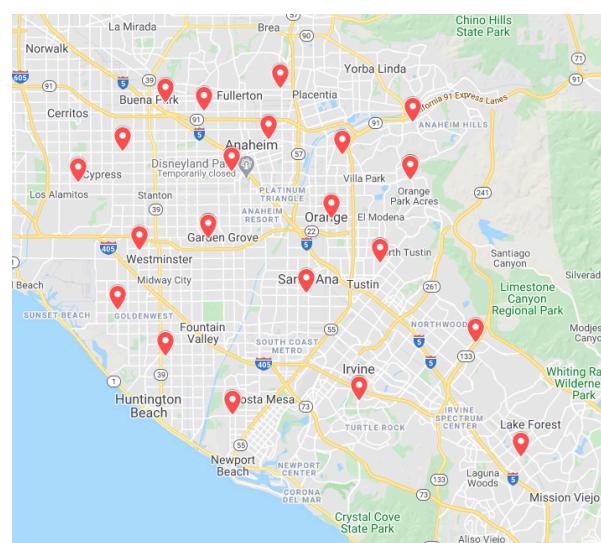


The screenshot shows the Concordia University Irvine website. At the top, there is a banner with a woman in an orange dress holding a pen and a notepad. The banner text reads: "CUI TOGETHER", "Concordia University Irvine's campus is temporarily closed. We want to remain connected to our community. Welcome to CUI Together.", "Here you will find links to free enriching and inspiring content for you to Connect, Watch, Listen, Learn, Read, and Browse at home.", and "Our first priority is the health and safety of our students, staff, faculty, visitors, and community. Learn more about Concordia's response to COVID-19." Below the banner, there are social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube. A "SUPPORT CUI" button is also visible. The main content area features a video message from President Thomas.

LCMS Grade Schools and Early Childhood Centers in Orange County



LCMS Congregations in Orange County



HOW TO PAINT ROCKS

Collect smooth rocks or stones to paint.

Wash rocks and allow them to dry in the sun.

Set up an area to paint rocks. Put down newspaper or a piece of white poster board to protect the surface that you will be working on.

Paint a single color acrylic base layer on each rock that you will be painting and allow it to dry. This optional step is recommended for most painted rocks and rock painting designs.

Paint rocks in any way you like, you can look online for ideas. Use paints, paint pens, or permanent markers.

Allow the painted rocks to dry overnight.

Be sure to write MyHopeRock.org on the back with paint or a sharpie.

Use a foam brush to paint a layer of acrylic sealant, outdoor acrylic sealant, or use an acrylic spray varnish to help protect the paint. (optional)

HIDING YOUR ROCKS

Don't trespass.

If hiding by a business, ask permission first.

Don't hide rocks in grass where lawnmowers go.

Don't hide in unsafe areas.

Never hide in national parks.

Take a picture when you place your rock and post it to your social media with #MyHopeRock