**Sample release, email or article template**

**Source: Gift of Hope Organ & Tissue Donor Network**

**November 2021**

**November is Faith and Hope Month:
Celebrate the gift of hope through organ, eye & tissue donation**

November is Faith and Hope Month, a time to reflect on faith-based perspectives on organ, eye and tissue donation and transplantation, and teachings that call on us to give to others through donation. We celebrate those whose faith has inspired the gift of life, sight and healing to others and call on all people and communities of faith to share the message of hope through donation.

All major religions and faith traditions consider organ donation a final act of compassion and generosity. It is not unusual that families faced with deciding whether to donate a loved one’s organs and tissue may question their church’s position. The best time to answer those questions and discuss with family members is before the decision must be made at the time of a loved one’s death.

Faith and Hope Month is an opportune time to do just that, as families gather for the holidays to explore their faith perspective and wishes on donation.

During the month, the nation also observes National Donor Sabbath. Traditionally observed two weekends before Thanksgiving, National Donor Sabbath takes place this year Friday through Sunday, Nov. 12-14.

Faith leaders, families and communities are encouraged to focus this weekend on the lifesaving and healing gifts passed to others through donation, and encourage people to register their decision to be organ, eye and tissue donors.

Learn more about Faith and Hope Month, religious perspectives on donation and transplantation, and how donation works at [www.giftofhope.org](http://www.giftofhope.org). Register your decision to be an organ, eye and tissue donation, and talk with your family.

Gift of Hope Organ & Tissue Donor Network is the not-for-profit organization responsible for coordinating organ, tissue and eye donation and working with the families of donors in Illinois and northwest Indiana.

# # #