

The Messenger

2026



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
1901 MIDDLEBOROUGH RD, ESSEX MD 21221





Dear Friends –

As the time for summer vacations comes to an end, and we take some time to celebrate Labor Day with family and friends—maybe with one last crab feast or cookout —we can give thanks for God’s abundant blessing on several of our efforts this summer:

There have been a number of energy-efficient upgrades to the lighting in both the church building and the All Stars Learning Center. We have also said goodbye to Nicole Hardin, the former director of ASLC and welcomed Arianna McNamee as the new director. We’re happy to have Payna Sims join us in the role of BASC teacher. Thank you to Thea Melton and everyone who worked so hard to offer a community picnic in mid-August. It was our effort to welcome our neighbors to the church and the All Stars Learning Center. A few families came to enjoy our hospitality. Our ministry continues in so many vibrant ways because of the investment of time and energy that so many of you share! Thank you for your efforts!

The call committee and church council have continued to meet throughout the summer to expedite the call process. Work on updating the congregation’s constitution is ongoing, and steps are being taken to satisfy the need for a financial audit of the church and preschool. The Ministry Site Profile has been submitted to the Synod. The call committee is looking forward to receiving a slate of candidates to interview. We are grateful for the dedicated members of the council and the call committee. We are moving forward in a positive and fruitful way together!

At the end of July, we celebrated an uplifting week of “Tropical Trek” Vacation Bible School. We welcomed quite a few children to enjoy learning, growing, and exploring faith and friendship with the assurance that “God comes to seek and save” us wherever we are, no matter what circumstances we face. We had a wonderful group of volunteers who worked together to make things work. It was a blessing for all who participated! Thank you to Denise McLaughlin for organizing such a spirit-filled week! The youth also enjoyed their annual retreat to Ocean City for several days of fun, learning, and fellowship. Thank you to Lynne Lake for organizing the Savers fundraising drive and the OC trip!

And now, it’s time to look ahead to a new year of learning and growing. September 13 is Rally Day – which begins the new Sunday School year. We’ll celebrate that with another community picnic to invite our neighbors to come and learn with us! Our Bible Studies will resume on September 23rd. Groups meet in person at 10:30 am in the choir room and via Zoom only at 7 pm. Choir Practice will begin again on September 20th at 11:00 am.

I always loved this time of year when I was a kid. In those days we got a new pair of shoes, a few new outfits, a new bookbag, notebooks and pencils...each year was a new start, a clean slate, with new teachers, friends, and topics to master. As an adult, this time of year reminds me that God is always moving us forward to meet new people, learn new things, and master living together with Him and each other for the sake of the Gospel.

This fall, as Hope continues to work together to build the new thing God has in mind for us, we can take comfort in knowing that he will guide and bless us too and provide us with all that we need to accomplish His purpose. It is exciting to have already enjoyed so many blessings from the hand of God; His continued faithfulness to us gives us the confidence to move forward and welcome all that He has in store. Please continue to pray for our leaders and continue to share in our worship and fellowship as we become the new thing that God is doing!

Grace and Peace
Pastor Eileen





**Join us on Sundays in the Sanctuary at
10:00 am. for worship.**

We are currently offering one worship service at 10:00 AM on Sundays. We are alternating between our Traditional and Family Worship Service format each Sunday, with a children's message, Holy Communion and Children's Church/KBZone.

Please join us in our Sanctuary.

Mission Statement

“Why are we here as a people of God? We are here to celebrate our faith, grow in faith and in God’s Word, and reach out in service to our community.

Go in peace to celebrate, grow and serve”!

ALTAR FLOWERS! We have dates **available** for Sign-up, **9/6, 9/27, 10/4, 10/11, 10/18-2, and 10/25.** Please let Joan Schweitzer or Shirley in the Office know if you wish to sign-up.

Bible Study and Small Groups

At Hope Church we take seriously the Great Commission of the Risen Jesus to "go, make disciples of all nations... teaching them..." We offer a variety of opportunities for people of all ages to deepen their faith through small group, Bible study and other discipleship groups and classes.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study:

Meetings every Wednesday at **10:30 AM** in the Choir Room, where each week we'll take a deeper dive into the scriptures that we read from "in worship" each week. Please Join Us!

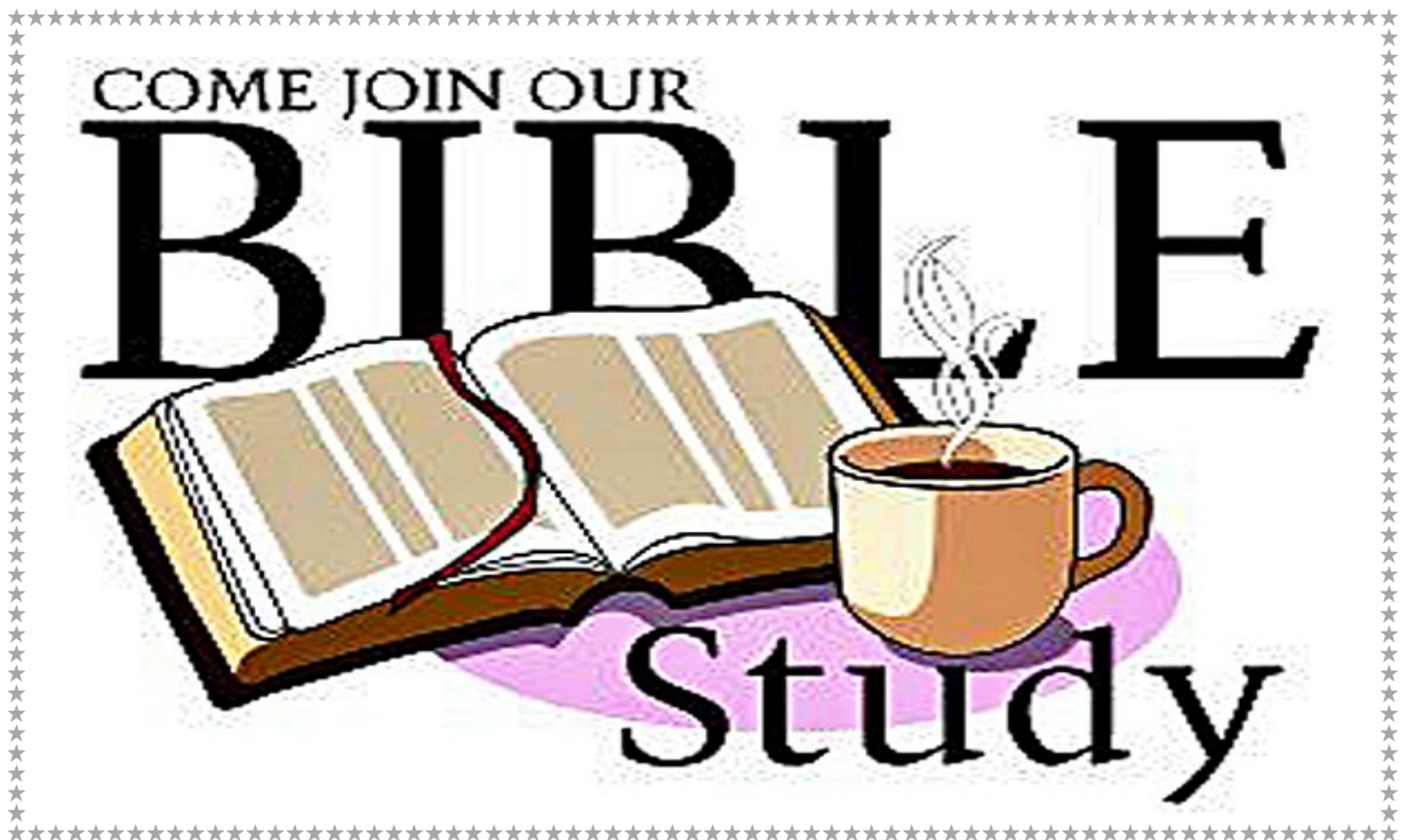
Wednesday Evening Bible Study:

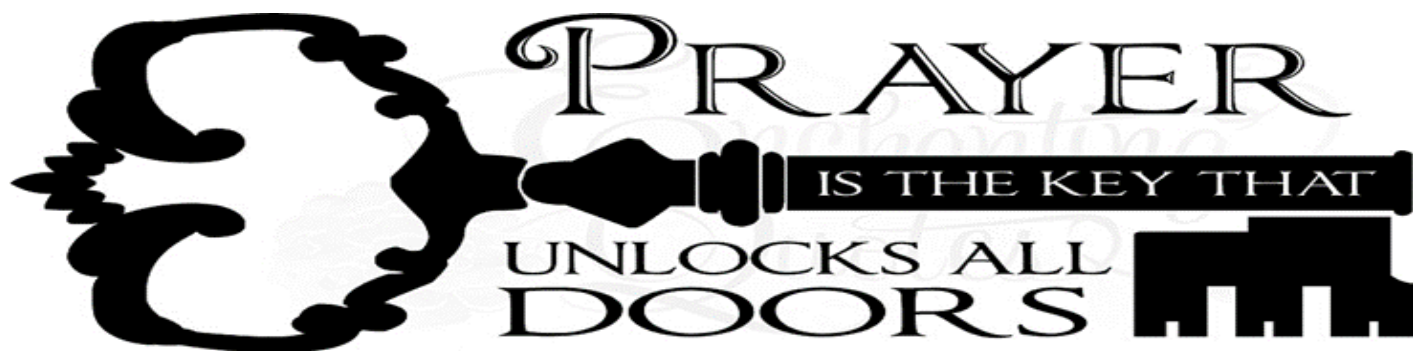
Meets at **7 PM** every Wednesday via zoom, when each week we'll take a deeper dive into the scriptures that we read from "in worship" each week. For the study at 7:00 pm, we will have a Zoom option available - and the link will be shared closer to then. Please join us!

*****If you would like to join any of the Bible Studies, please let Pastor Eileen know and she will share links, phone number and meeting ID with you and more information.**

Pastor Eileen Kelley-Warmer, Cell: (443-721-9410)

Holy God, write your Word on our hearts so that we might move with gracefulness through the world, balanced and whole. In Jesus' name, Amen.





PRAYER CONCERNS: Karen Alban, Gail Anuszewski, Howard Altenburg, Susan Baucom, Barbara Becker, Carolyn Bell, Bob Bellach, Gail Berry, Jessica Berry, Pat Berry, Andrew Bien, Kathy Binas, John Boblitz, Don Boyce, Ken Brazerol, Debbie Bryant, Tony Bunk, Rick Calo, David Clagget, Chris Coffey, Mary Jane Conrad, Julie Cook, Kristy Cooper, Tom Cox, Chuck DeWitt, Kimberly Dixon, Jami Edgar, David Eicher, Belinda Emge, Susan Enclade, Judy Eszes, Evan, Jane Fabrizio, John Fabrizio, Darlene Fisher, Tim Flaherty, Al Fleischmann, Florence, Derrick Fowler, Sam Freels, Mike Gerald, Fred Getz, Russ Getz, Beverley Golinsky, Trudy Grauer, Cowyn Gustave, Nicole Harden, J & K, Lillian Jones, Steve Kahl, Sr., David Kerner, Joan Kincaid, Matt Kretzschmar, Christina Lacko, Diane Lacko, Lynne Lake, Mary Lake, Patty Baldwin Linsolato, Margaret Linz, Harriet Lloyd, Phil Malpas, Mary Katherine, Ruth Massaroni, John Micklos, Michelle Moore, Terry Novak, Charmaine Ordak, Rebecca Orr, Beth Patterson, Judy Crockett Peddiford, Deloris Phillips, Evelyn Porter, Dorothy Prevost, Cass Rayman, Dave Raynor, Frank Schmidt, Family of Maryellen Schumacher, Bob Schweitzer, Nancy Scott, Sandy Schiller, Charlene Simmons, Lonny Smith, Margaret Smith, Deni Starr, John Steiner, Peggy Talbott, Frank Walls, Madison Ward, Trish

White, Karen Williams, Gail Wilson, Cass Wohlleben

Congregation and our ministries, All First Responders, Medical Personnel, and all active and reserve members of our armed forces.

IF YOU ARE HOSPITALIZED: If you are scheduled for surgery, or will be hospitalized, or have an emergency health care issue, please be sure to inform the church office (410-686-7587) so that pastoral care can be offered. It is extremely important to us that we can be there for you!

Please notify our church office or Pastor if you want to add or delete any names from the Prayer List.





CELEBRATE RALLY DAY!

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

COME JOIN US FOR THE START OF OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM

CHILDREN 4 YEARS TO 12 YEARS OF AGE!

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YOUTH PICNIC FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2026 @ 12:00PM -2:00PM

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FUNDRAISER PICNIC TO SUPPORT OUR YOUTH GROUP

WE WILL BE SERVING HOT DOGS & HAMBURGERS!

FREE WILL OFFERING FOR HAMBURGERS & HOT DOGS!

ICE CREAM SUNDAE'S \$5.00 FOR THE WORKS \$4.00 PLAIN

DRINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE TOO!

PLEASE BRING YOUR FAVORITE PICNIC DISH!



PRAISE & WORSHIP

In the sanctuary starting at 9:30 AM ending at 9:40 AM there will be an

opportunity for Testimonials, Prayer, Scriptures, Singing & give honor to God. Please join us!

Colin R. A. Eversley, Music Minister

CHOIR WILL RESUME SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH WITH REHEARSALS BEING AFTER THE 10:00 PM SUNDAY SERVICE.

PLEASE JOIN US!



ALL STARS Christian Learning Center

A ministry of
Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church
**IS NOW ENROLLING FOR OUR
FALL PRE-K AND BEFORE & AFTER
SCHOOL CARE PROGRAMS**
MONDAY - FRIDAY 6:30AM - 6PM
AGES 3 - 11

Contact 410-686-6060
or email allstarscenter@yahoo.com
We provide programs with a strong Christian emphasis.

We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, sexual orientation, age, ancestry, disability, marital status, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. Reasonable accommodation will be provided for qualified children with disabilities upon request, as specified under the American with Disabilities Act. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment.

ALL STARS LEARNING CENTER: is now accepting registrations for Pre-K 3 & 4 and Before/After School Care programs. Please spread the word.
For more information contact Ms. Arianna, Director at 410-686-6060
or email allstarscenter@yahoo.com

FAITH

- F** **Focus** – Keep your eyes on your visions and goals.
- A** **Action** – Move forward with determination and effort.
- I** **Integrity** – Stay true to your values and principles.
- T** **Trust** – Believe in yourself and the process.
- H** **Hope** – Keep a positive mindset for the future.



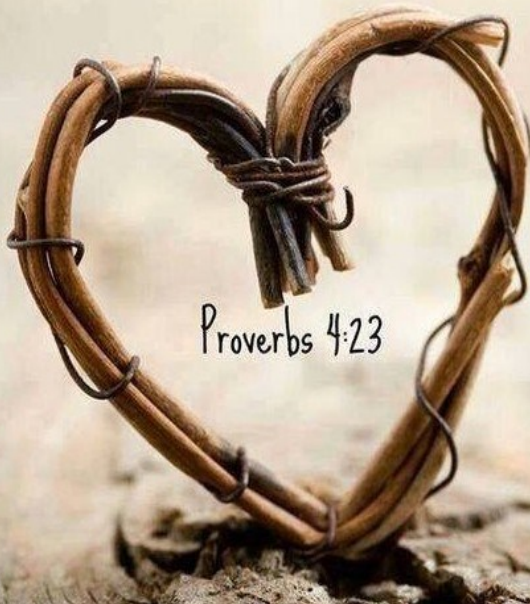
God's perfect timing

Ecclesiastes 3:1

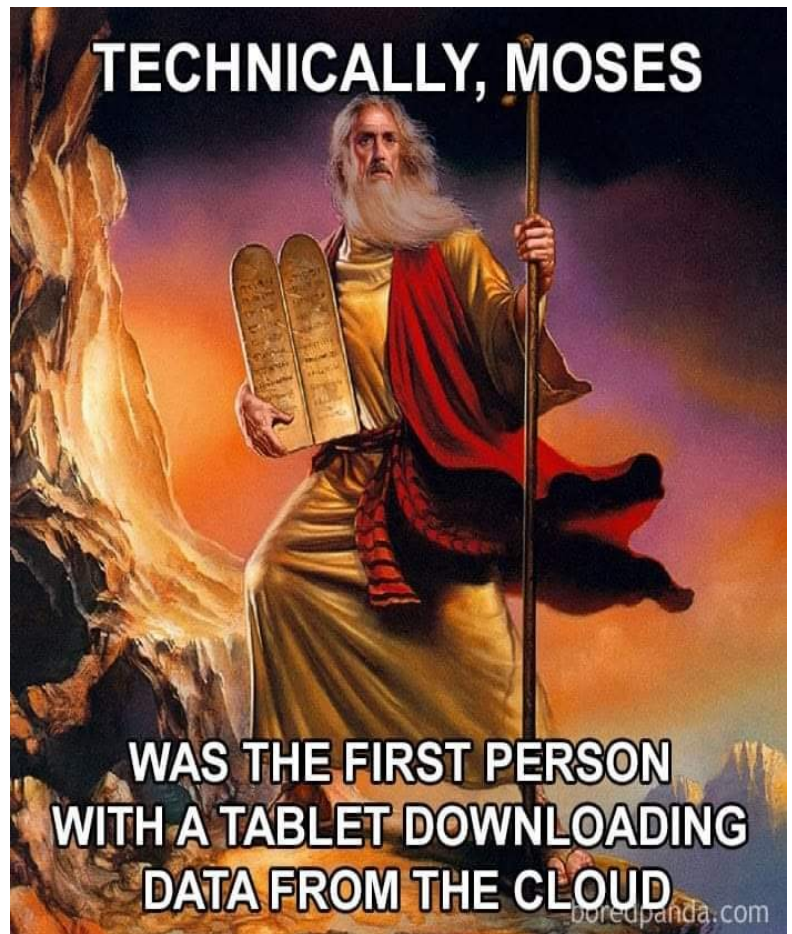


To everything there is a season, a purpose under heaven

Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

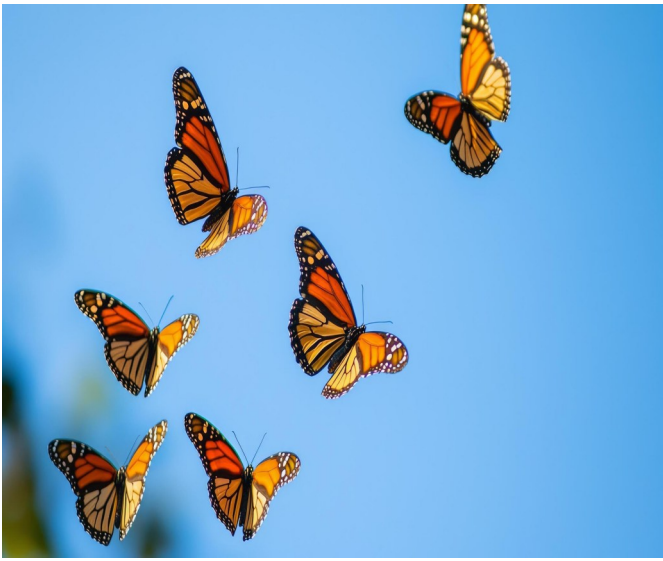


TECHNICALLY, MOSES



WAS THE FIRST PERSON
WITH A TABLET DOWNLOADING
DATA FROM THE CLOUD

boredpanda.com



On Saturday, June 27th, the GriefShare group gathered for a celebration of life and a remembrance of those they have lost

It was a blessed and beautiful time of sharing and thanksgiving for the love of those who have been a vibrant part of our lives,

and gratitude for God's presence and the comfort and support of the group for one another.





GriefShare

No matter the circumstances, grief can be a complicated and painful experience. GriefShare is a safe, welcoming group of folks in our congregation and broader community who gather over thirteen weeks to learn, process, and grow through seasons of grief together. You would be most welcome to join either of our GriefShare groups, which meet on the following dates and times:

Saturday mornings-person in the Choir Room at 10:00 am

Monday evenings over Zoom at 7:00 pm

If you'd like more information - including the Zoom link for Monday evenings- or, if you have

any questions, feel free to contact Cindy Schmidt-Presnell. 443-519-7174

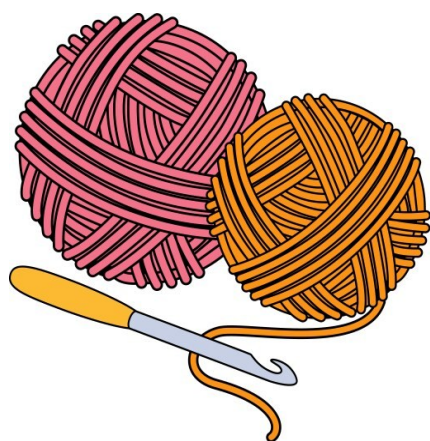
"The greatest gift we can
give to each other is to
pray for one another."



*Lord, let my heart
be good soil.*

(ELW 512)





Crochet workshop to benefit Seafarers Christmas at Sea program

Ever wanted to learn how to crochet or improve your skills in a cozy, supportive space? Join us for a fun and relaxing Crochet Workshop, where we'll create a crochet cap or cowl based on patterns supplied by Seafarers

SEPTEMBER 12, 2026 | 1PM-3 PM

Hope Lutheran Church
1901 Middleborough Road Essex, MD 21221
Limited spots available—don't miss out!

RSVP : Chrissy Williams 443-375-1754
chrissy_sekmet@yahoo.com or
Cindy Schmidt-Presnell 443-519-7174

All supplies and a small snack will be provided. Along with hands on instruction for both left and right handers.
Just bring your own scissors.





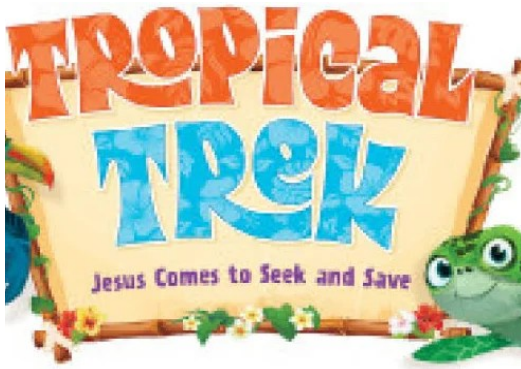
Quilter's Corner

Join our Quilting Team in the quilt room for sewing and fellowship. Making quilts to give the recipients an encouraging hug and to let them know they are loved. May God bless Hope Quilting Team and their ministry! We meet every Monday morning at 10 AM making quilts to give to recipients around the world and in the U.S. You do not need to be a seamstress, just be able to sew a straight line.

*Please join us in our ministry!
Pictures were taken in 2024.*



VBS 2026



**God finds me
When I have troubles.**

**God finds me
When I'm lonely**

VBS 2026

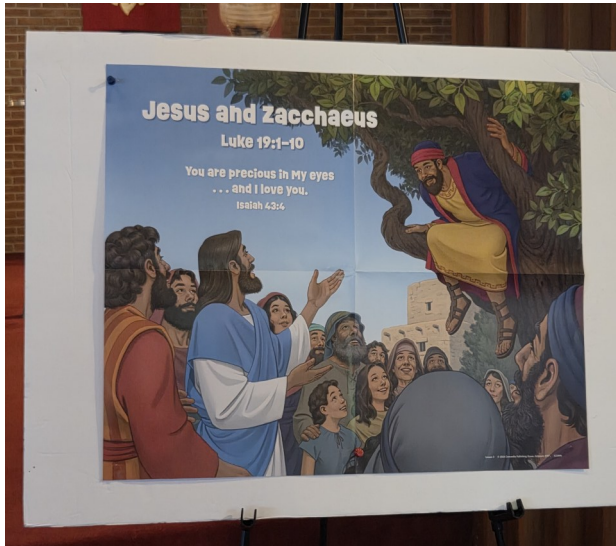
“Jesus Comes to Seek and Save”

*God finds me
When I'm lost.*



VBS 2026

“Tropical Trek, Jesus Comes to Seek and Save”



***God finds me when I
Think there's no hope.***



***God finds me,
No matter my sin.***



Youth Retreat in Ocean City, MD August 5h-8th

Our youth group retreat focuses on friendship with each other, and with Jesus Christ.

We studied

John 15:11-14

Meaning: Jesus teaches that true joy comes from following him and living according to his teachings. He emphasizes the greatest expression of love is self sacrifice for others, and he calls his follow her friends when they obey his command to love as he loves.

Activity- started the first person with 15 books in a backpack. Each time they came to someone that person would take three out to lighten the load teaching that sharing the load makes it easier in the end.

Colossians 3:12-15

Meaning: Paul encourages believers to reflects God's character by showing compassion, kindness, humility, patience, and forgiveness towards one another. Above all, love should guide every action, bringing unity and allowing God's peace to govern their heart and relationship.

Activity - giving the group a simple activity with one person, assigned to cause a mess and then turn around and start helping. The girls did such a great job with this activity, showing patience and forgiveness.

1Thessalonians 5:11-13

Meaning: this passage, reminds Christians to encourage and build each other up in faith. It also calls believers to appreciate and respect those who lead and serve the church, promoting love, gratitude, and peace within the community.

Ruth 1:14-17

Meaning: Ruth demonstrates extra ordinary loyalty and devotion 10 Naomi by refusing to leave her, even when allowed to return home. Her pledge shows, not only commitment to Naomi, but also faith in Naomi's God, illustrating the power of love, faithfulness, and sacrificial commitment in relationships.

Activity- we had them gather in a circle and randomly throw a item back-and-forth making comments to each other.

We also participated with Saint peter's peach festival.

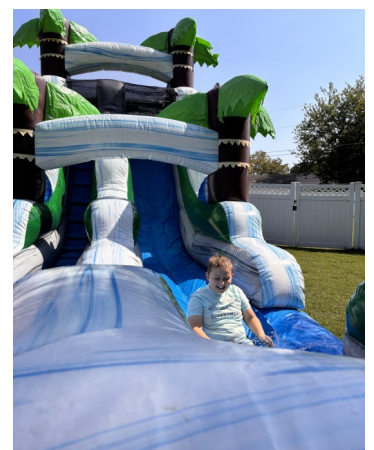
During the first day we went to the ocean and they got stung by jellyfish and apparently jellyfish lice. We were able to make two more trips and went to Assateague Island and this is where Pastor Eileen was able to do a Bible study talking about Martin Luther beginning of the catechism. The youth would like to thank Pastor Eileen for taking the time to come down for just one day.

We would like to thank the congregation for making this possible for the us to be able to go on this retreat.

Jesus Christ name the youth group.



Hope's Community Picnic August 15th



Fellowship Hour

Table Decorations this Summer!

July 5th



July 12th



July 19th



August 9th



*Thank you Judy for sharing your many talents with us
and making Fellowship Hour inviting!*

*Fellowship Hour
Table Decorations this Summer!
Thank you, Judy for all you do to bring
A Smile and beauty to our Fellowship Hour.*

August 16th



August 23rd



August 30th



Kick Off 2026-2027 School Year

Blessing of the Backpacks



On August 30h, we kicked off back to school Sunday with the Blessing of the Backpacks. The students and educators including our Sunday School Team received a backpack keychain to be a reminder of their blessing, and that their church family will be praying for them to have a safe and successful school year.

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A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER

Loving God, thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer.

Today, we pray for our children as they begin their new school year.

Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning. Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy.

Grant teachers wisdom, patience, and joy in serving their students.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.





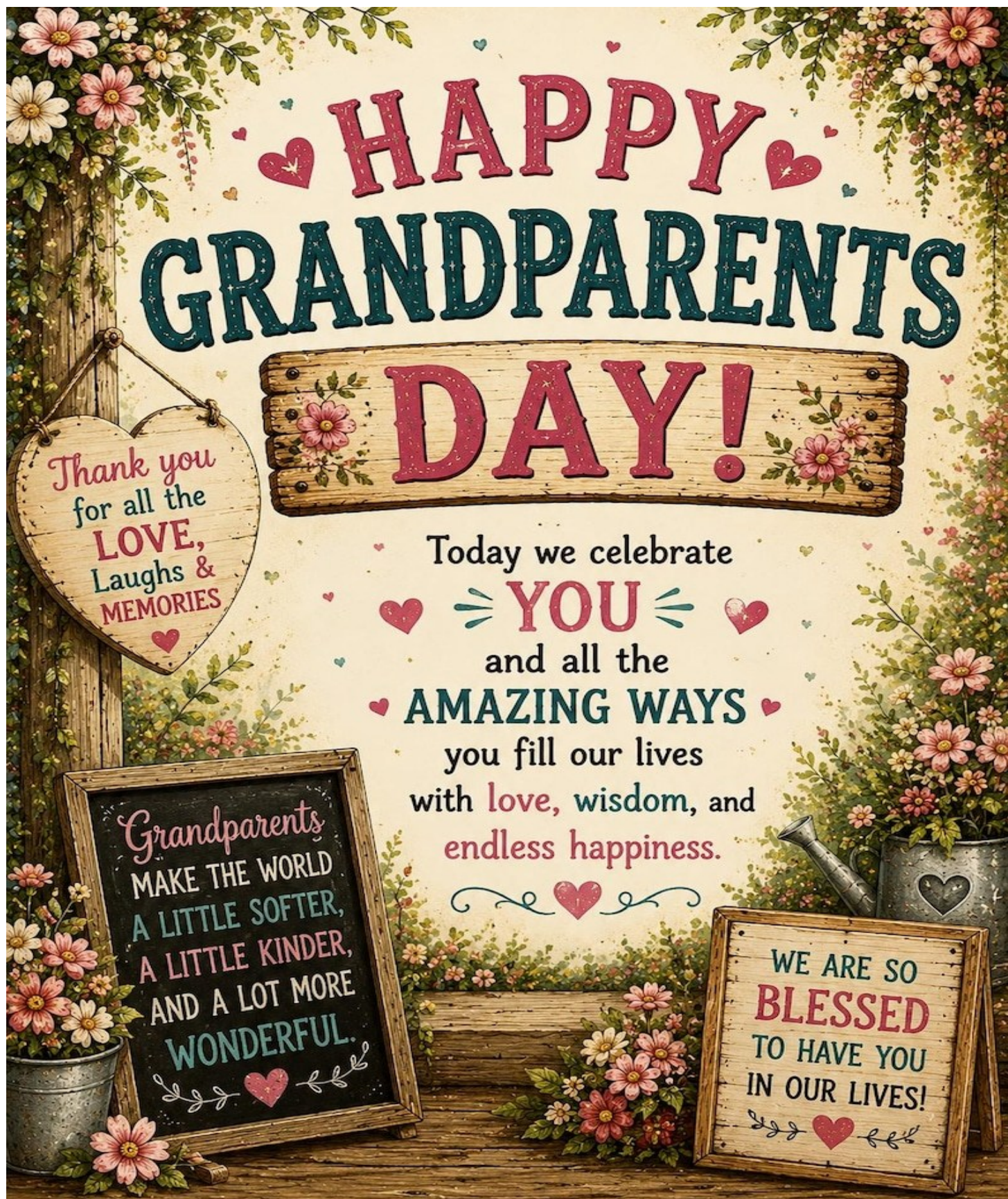
• HAPPY •
LABOUR'S DAY



Remembering September 11th



National Grandparents Day!
September 13th



Trunk or Treat



Hope Lutheran Church

Please join us for
“Trunk or Treat” on
Friday, October 30th,
7:00 PM—8:00 PM
in the Learning Center Parking Lot



September Birthdays



Tricia	Hays	September 05
Carolee	Calo	September 10
Khiri	Ford	September 12
Eric	Eszes	September 16
Sarai	Ford	September 18
Timothy	Leucht	September 20
Rachel	Morgan	September 23
Riley	Mason	September 25
Laurie	Koontz	September 27
Meheret	Caruthers	September 29



♪ *Happy Birthday To You*



Duty Schedule for September 2026

10:00	Sept 6	Sept 13	Sept 20	Sept 27
Assist	Joan Schweitzer	Bob Schweitzer	Colan Kahl	Thea Melton
Server if needed	None	None	None	None
Lector	Youth	Jeff Patten	Jess Kahl	Thea Coker
Ushers	Youth Jackie Eversley	Donna Jacob Eric Eszes	Donna Jacob Carol Ogle	Linda Moler Christina Lacko
Counters	Linda Moler Denise McLaughlin	Kate Patten David Presnell	Donna Jacob Colan Kahl	Linda Moler Thea Melton
Flowers	Thea Coker <i>Sign-up Available</i>	Jeff & Kate Patten Kathy Glagola	Bob & Joan Schweitzer Steve & Sharyn Kahl	<i>GriefShare Sign-up Available</i>
Sunday School		<i>Rally Day!</i>	TBD	TBD



Worship Readings for September 2026

Date/Day	Scripture Texts	Theme
September 6 Pent 15	Ezekiel 33:7-11 Psalm 119:33-40 Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20	- The prophet's responsibility to warn the people - I desire the path of your commandments. - Live honorably as in the day - Reconciliation in the community of faith
September 13 Pent 16	Genesis 50:15-21 Psalm 103:1-13 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35	- Joseph reconciles with his brothers - Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy - Accepting diversity in the community of faith - A parable of forgiveness in the community of faith
September 20 Pent 17	Jonah 3:10—4:11 Psalm 145:1-8 Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16	- God's concern for the city of Nineveh - The Lord is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love - Standing firm in the gospel - The parable of the vineyard workers
September 27 Pent 18	Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 Psalm 25:1-9 Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32	- The fairness of God's way - Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love. - Christ humbled to the point of death on a cross - A parable of doing God's will.

So faith
comes from hearing,
and hearing through
the word of christ

Romans 10:17

Fall Into AUTUMN



2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 10:30 AM & 3:00 PM All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	2	3	4	5
6 10:00 AM Worship in the Sanctuary Rally Day! 	7 	8 10:30 AM & 3:00 PM All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	9 dy	10	11	12
13 10:00 AM Rally Day! Worship in the Sanctuary	14 10:00 AM Quilters QUILTING GROUP	15 10:30 AM & 3:00 PM All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	16	17	18	19 -
20 10:00 AM Worship in the Sanctuary 11:00 AM Choir Rehearsal	21 10:00 AM Quilters COUNCIL MEETING 7:00 AM Church Council Meeting	22 10:30 AM & 3:00 PM All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	23 10:30 AM Bible Study in Choir Room 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study 	24	25	26
27 10:00 AM Worship in the Sanctuary 11:00 AM Choir Rehearsal	28 10:00 AM Quilters QUILTING GROUP	29 10:30 AM & 3:00 PM All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	30 10:30 AM Bible Study in Choir Room 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study 			



Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church

Our Staff

1901 Middleborough Rd. Baltimore, MD 21221

Pastor: **Eileen Kelley-Warner** • Office 410-686-7587 • Cell 443-721-9410

E-Mail: eileenkelley1@comcast.net

Music Minister: **Colin Eversley** • Cell 410-499-2291

E-Mail: craeversley11@hotmail.com

Secretary: **Shirley Edmonston** • Office 410-686-7587

E-Mail: hopelsecretary@outlook.com **Office hours 8:30 am-1:00 pm, Tues.-Fri.**

Council President: **Bob Schweitzer** • Cell 443-844-0065

Council VP: **Jeff Patten** • Cell 410-456-5464

Council Secretary: **Denise McLaughlin** • Cell 410-686-0199

Treasurer: **John Kelly** • Cell 443-770-0127

Gina Baker 410-456-9548

Nicole Eck 443-271-4014

Colan Kahl, Past. Pres.—410-292-2544

Sharyn Kahl 410-574-3060

Lynne Lake—Youth Leader 443-854-0708

Vicki Lesko 410-630-2228

Thea Melton 410-585-5670

Dave Presnell 443-271-7488



**Office
Hours**



**Articles for the October
issue of the Messenger, are due
by Tuesday, September 22nd!**