



"We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ."

(1 Thess 1:3)



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your warmth and welcome as I have embraced the call to lead Hope Lutheran Church into another season of mission and ministry. It is exciting to consider what God can and will do as we pool our gifts and abilities and seek God's guidance on how to use them to strengthen our witness to His goodness and grace.

Moving into the future often causes mixed feelings in us. On one hand, it is exciting to dream, plan, and envision the possibilities that tomorrow may bring. But not knowing what will happen or how it will unfold can also make us anxious and fearful. As we begin this interim ministry together, I share the hope and excitement that many of you have expressed about the process. As we work to build on our strong foundation of faith, we are bound to face some challenges and have moments of doubt. As God's people called together, inspired, and empowered by his Spirit, we can have faith that he will guide and strengthen us as we move forward.

Throughout the history of Hope, God has prompted the church to reach out in mission and ministry and has provided the resources to meet those needs. Faith in what He has already done can help us to trust that God will continue to be faithful as we seek to do His will in the future. The question we have to ask ourselves is, "Are our best days behind us or ahead of us?" We serve a God who always works to make all things new. He calls us into the future, promising that "the best is yet to be." One of the most vital parts of this process is to ask God to reveal His vision for our future to us. This requires prayer and reflection, listening to hear God's voice, and looking for signs of His direction. It also requires respectful and thoughtful dialogue.

I ask each of you to commit to spending time in prayer each day for our congregation, our leaders, and (I humbly ask) your pastor. I also encourage you to participate regularly in Sunday worship and the activities of the church so that we can strengthen our sense of community and our comfort in discussing important issues and decisions with one another. As we work together, I also invite you to share your thoughts and concerns with me by phone (443-721-9410) or email (at [eileenkelley1@comcast.net](mailto:eileenkelley1@comcast.net)). God speaks through the prophet Jeremiah saying, I know the plans I have for you...plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future (Jer 28:11)." Let us work together and pray together in hope and expectation, that we might lay hold of the vibrant future God has in store for us!

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 and Children's Church/KBZone. Please join us for Worship Service and Holy Communion in our sanctuary on Sundays at 10:00 AM

**Mission Statement**

**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"!**



April 2nd **Maundy Thursday** Service at 7:00 PM  
April 3rd **Good Friday** Service at 7:00 PM  
April 5th **Easter Sunday** Services at 8:00 AM Traditional  
Service & 10:00 AM Contemporary Family

**Please join us!**

\*\*\*\*\*



Please join us for a **Continental Breakfast between the 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM services on Easter Sunday.** We will be enjoying good food and fellowship in the Narthex on blessed Easter morning.



Gail Anuszewski	David Eicher	Phil Malpas	Frank Walls
Howard Altenburg	Belinda Emge	Mary-Kathryn	Madison Ward
Bob Baker	Susan Enclade	Ruth Massaroni	Trish White
Connie Baker	Evan	John Micklos	Karen Williams
Susan Baucom	Darlene Fisher	Matilda Miller	Gail Wilson
Barbara Becker	Tim Flaherty	Michelle Moore	Cass Wohleben
Carolyn Bell	Al Fleischmann	Terry Novak	
Bob Bellach	Florence	Charmaine Ordak	
Gail Berry	Derrick Fowler	Rebecca Orr	
Jessica Berry	Jane Fabrizio	Beth Patterson	
Pat Berry	John Fabrizio	Judy Crockett	
Kathy Binas	Sam Freels	Peddicord	
John Boblitz	Mike Gerald	Krista Pellegrimi	
Ken Brazerol	Fred Getz	Deloris Phillips	
Debbie Bryant	Russ Getz	Evelyn Porter	
Anbdres Buitrago	Beverley Golinsky	Dave Presnell	
Wilford Buitrago	Trudy Grauer	Dorothy Prevost	
Tony Bunk	Cowyn Gustave	Cass Rayman	
Ethel Burke	Nicole Hardin	Dave Raynor	
Rick Calo	J & K	Sandy Schiller	
David Clagget	Lillian Jones	Frank Schmidt	
Chris Coffey	David Kerner	Nancy Scott	
Mary Jane Conrad	Joan Kincaid	Charlene Simmons	
Susan Conrad	Matt Kretzschmar	Lonny Smith	
Julie Cook	Christina Lacko	Margaret Smith	
Tom Cox	Diane Lacko	Deni Starr	
Chuck DeWitt	Patty Baldwin-	John Steiner	
Kimberly Dixon	Linsolata	Peggy Talbott	
Jami Edgar	Margaret Linz	Thom	
Alice Edinger	Harriett Lloyd	Vernon Wallace	



# **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.

To register, call 410-686-7587 or email [hopelsecretary@outlook.com](mailto:hopelsecretary@outlook.com).

## **Wednesday Morning Bible Study:**

There will be Bible Study on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the Choir Room. Please Join Us!

## **Wednesday Evening Bible Study:**

There will be Evening Zoom Bible Study or in-person Bible Study on Wednesday evenings at 7 PM. Please join us!

*\*\*\*If you would like information about these Bible Studies and Zoom, please let Pastor Eileen know and she will forward you the links!*



**Bible Study  
Opportunities**



# Spring Congregation Meeting Announcement

***It's that time of year! Our Spring Congregation meeting will be held on Sunday, May 3, 2026 after the 10:00am Worship Service & Fellowship. This is an important meeting as we will be discussing and voting on:***

- Approve minutes from December 2025 Congregation Meeting***
- HELC Treasurer Report***
- ASLC Treasurer Report***

***We need to have as many members as possible to attend the meeting, so we meet our quorum requirements. Please mark your calendars and make it a priority to attend the meeting.***

***God's Blessings,  
Bob Schweitzer,  
Council President***



***Congregational Meeting***

Praise and Worship



PRAISE & WORSHIP

Every Sunday beginning at 9:30-9:40 AM there will be an opportunity to shout, pray, sing, and give testimony & honor to God. Please join us in the sanctuary.

*Colin Eversley, Music Minister*

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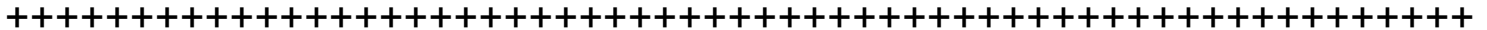


Thanks to all who continue to faithfully provide donations for our Food for Thought weekend backpack/monthly gift card program. Caitlin Edwards, MES school counselor, wants you to know that parents of selected students are very appreciative of this nutritional support for their children. Thank you for making it possible!!

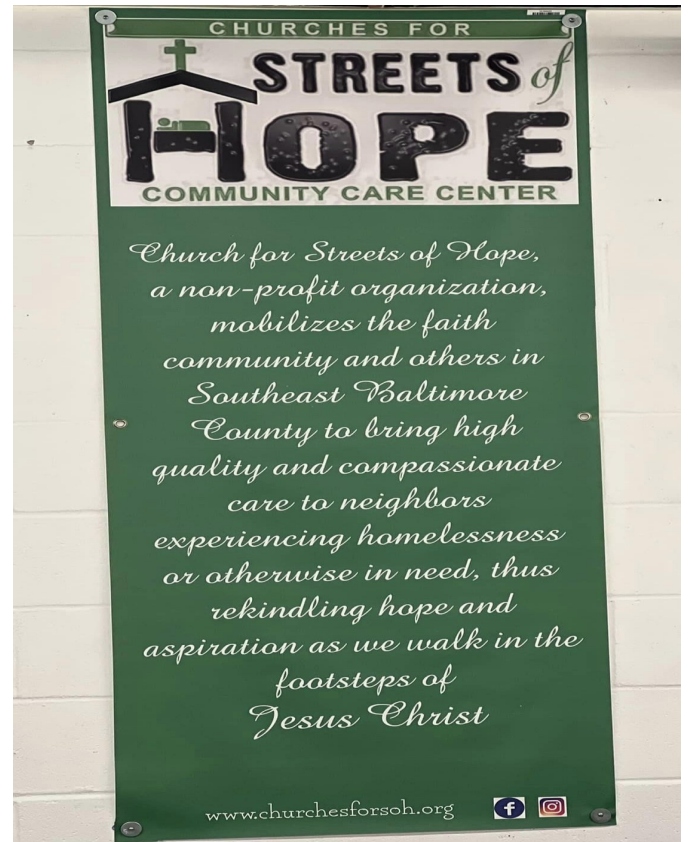
## Hope's Quilting Ministry Team

On **Sunday, March 1st**, it was so beautiful to see and bless the quilts that our Quilting Ministry made this past year. We had **33 quilts** to bless! Wow!

All of the quilts that we blessed on this Sunday, were delivered earlier this week to Lutheran World Relief, who will ship them around the world to those in need. Can you imagine that? The quilts that we made in Middleborough will comfort and bless people whom we might not know, but to whom we are connected as God's church, in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and more! Join them every **Monday, at 10 am** in the Choir Room for this special ministry and fellowship!



**The Streets of Hope Men's Shelter is now open til the end of April for cold weather. Our church will be providing dinner on the 4<sup>th</sup> of every month and our next time to serve will be Friday, April 3rd. If anyone would be interested in providing food, please contact Sandy Cincinnati at 443-324- 8355 for further details.**



# GRIEF SHARE<sup>®</sup>

You are not alone



We will begin a new **GriefShare** session on **Saturday, April 18 at 10 am** in the Choir Room. The new session for **Monday** virtual will begin on **April 20 at 7 pm**. If anyone has any questions, please contact Cindy Schmidt-Presnell 443-519-7174 or Laurie Koontz 443-632-5220



# Congratulations and God Speed, Pastor Adam



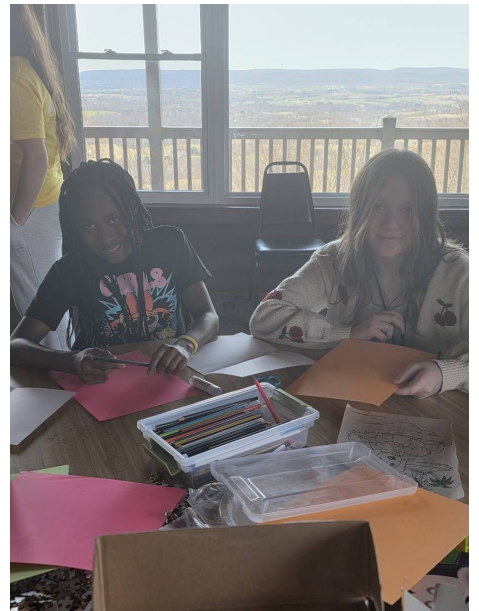
# Our Fellowship Hour for Pastor Adam's last Sunday with Hope Church, March 8th.



## Youth Group News

**Seeker Retreat @ Mar Lu Ridge, March 14 and 15th.** The theme was “**growing god’s gardening**” The activities included making a flower Drawing roots for them to understand that without the roots, the flower would not grow just like God’s love. They also planet seeds, think and first service project. They went around picking up sticks to clear the pathways. They focused on: Galatians 5:22-23, are the visible, combined character traits of a life led by the Holy Spirit. Often considered a single fruit with nine facets, they are love, joy, peace, patience (long-suffering), kindness, goodness 1 Corinthians 3 5-9 5 What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. 6 I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. 7 So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. 8 The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. 9 For we are co-workers in God’s service; you are God’s field, God’s building.





**“Our Fellowship Center Pieces”**  
**Thank you to Judy for all the lovely and creative centerpieces that you design for our Fellowship Hour each Sunday!**

**February 22nd**



**March 1st**



**March 8th**



**March 15th**



**March 22nd**



**March 29th**



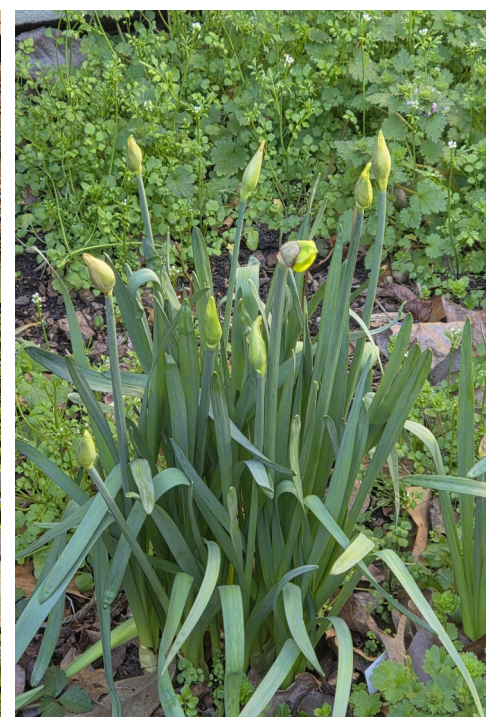


*Spring has Arrived!  
Our Courtyard on the first day of Spring,  
March 20th!*

*Thank you Thea for beautifying our Courtyard!*



**"Where flowers bloom so does hope" by Lady Bird Johnson**



# All Stars Learning Center



Hope Lutheran Church  
 1901 Middleborough Road  
 Essex, MD 21221  
 410-686-6060  
[allstarscenter@yahoo.com](mailto:allstarscenter@yahoo.com)



***Do you want your child to have a cinematic and fun filled Summer?***

We invite your child to experience our  
*"Lights, Camera, Action!" Summer Program!*

**Learn fun facts** about Movies, Various Countries, Wild Animals and More!

**Other fun activities will include:** STEM, water play, biking obstacles, spirit week, and special visitors!

Outdoor Activities		Arts/Crafts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized Sports Soccer, Basketball, Baseball</li> <li>Sprinkler / Water Balloon Days</li> <li>Obstacle Courses</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create Americana Jewelry</li> <li>Make a Memory Orb</li> <li>Decorate a Baseball Cap</li> <li>Make a Pinata</li> <li>Arrange Edible Snacks</li> <li>Customize a Popcorn Bucket</li> </ul>
Special Events	<u>Special Visits</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cook-Out</li> <li>Hawaiian Luau</li> <li>Ice Cream Party</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kona Ice</li> <li>CFA Cow</li> <li>Oriole Bird</li> </ul>	

\*\*Our Summer Program covers ten weeks<sup>1</sup> of care, beginning June 15, 2026, and ending August 21, 2026. We offer full time care and part-time care. Tuition ranges from \$75.00-\$260.00 per week, with an additional activities fee of \$10.00 per week. Our Center provides breakfast, morning snack, and afternoon snack. Lunch must be provided by parents. For more information and to register your child for our Summer Program, please contact Nicole at 410-686-6060. \*\*

<sup>1</sup> You do not have to sign up for all 10 weeks, but registration is 1<sup>st</sup> come, 1<sup>st</sup> served.

*This organization and its materials are not affiliated with, sponsored by, or endorsed by Baltimore County Public Schools, the Superintendent, or this Baltimore County Public School or Office.*



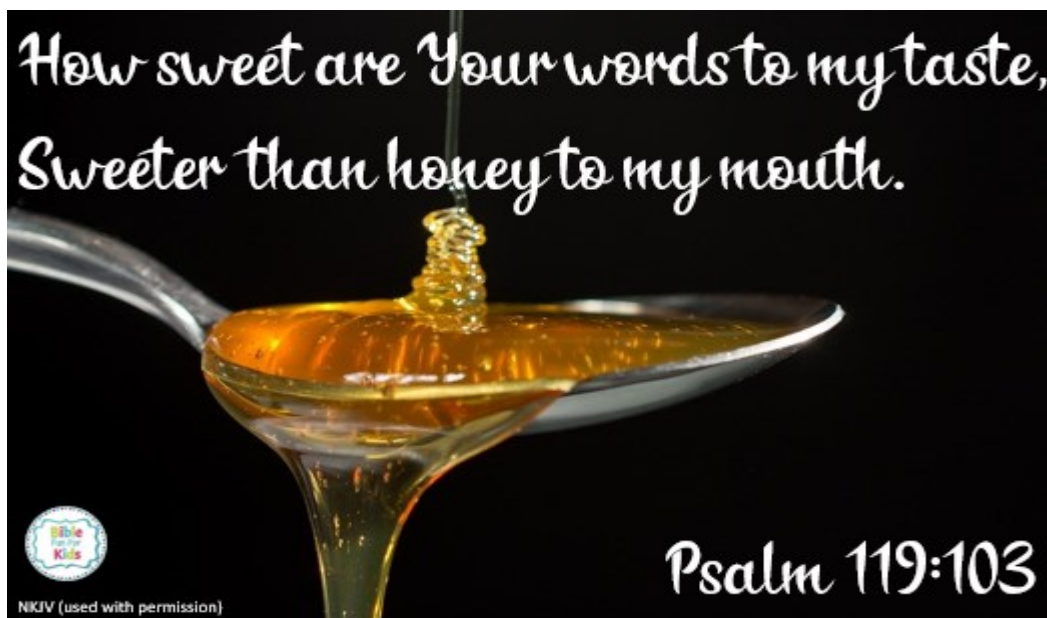


04	Brian Frueh
05	Brooklynn Hays
05	Connie Baker
06	Jackie Eversley
08	Katlyn Smith
09	Susan Yelton
11	Lisa Crout
11	Margo Crout
26	Deloris Phillips



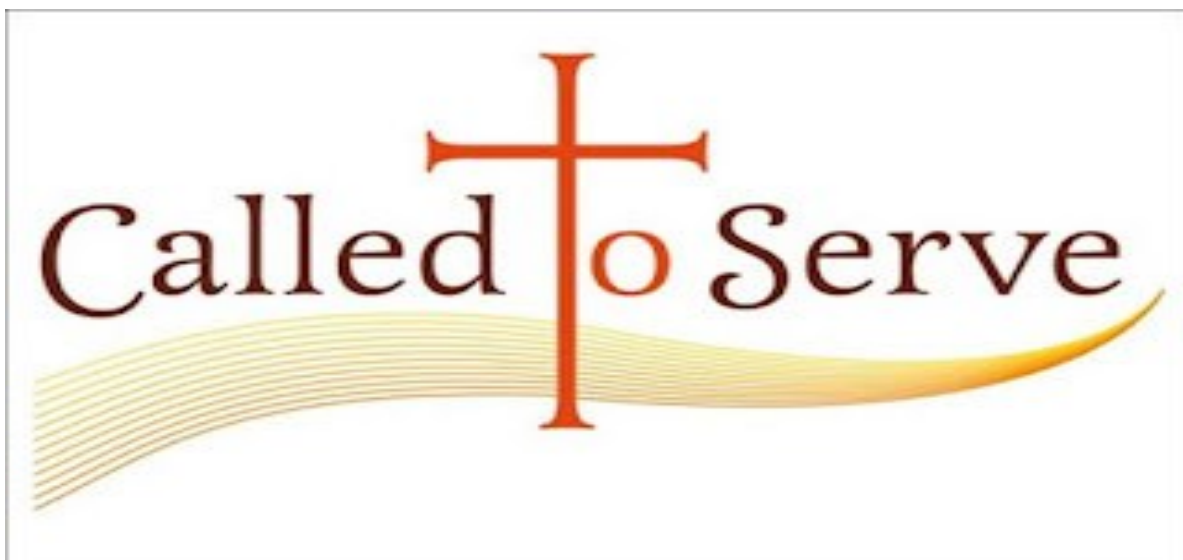
# Worship Themes for April 2026

Date/Day	Scripture texts	Theme
<b>April 5</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b>	Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Colossians 3:1-4 Matthew 28:1-10	God raised Jesus on the third day This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Raised with Christ to seek the higher things Proclaim the resurrection
<b>April 12</b> <b>Easter 2</b>	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31	Christ's resurrection: the fulfillment of God's promise to David In your presence there is fullness of joy. New birth to a living hope through the resurrection Beholding the wounds of the risen Christ
<b>April 19</b> <b>Easter 3</b>	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35	Receiving God's promise through baptism I will call on the name of the Lord. Born anew through the living word of God Eating with the risen Christ
<b>April 26</b> <b>Easter 4</b>	Acts 2:42-47 Psalm 23 1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10: 1-10	The believers' common life The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. Follow the shepherd, even in suffering Christ the shepherd










## Duty Schedule for April 2026

Date/Duty	April 5 Easter	April 12 Easter 2	April 19 Easter 3	April 26 Easter 4
Assist	Joan Schweitzer Colan Kahl	John Kelly	Bob Schweitzer	Eric Eszes
Lector	Bob Schweitzer The Youth	Joan Schweitzer	Marge Carl	Mark Warner
Serve if needed	None  The Youth	Joan Schweitzer	None	Bob Schweitzer
Ushers	Carol Ogle, Eric Eszes The Youth Jackie Eversley	David Presnell Laurie Koontz	Donna Jacob Denise McLaughlin	Linda Moler Carolee Calo
Counters	Colan Kahl Denise McLaughlin	Joan Schweitzer Linda Moler	Donna Jacob Steve Kahl	Linda Moler Bob Schweitzer
Flowers	Steve & Sharyn Kahl Hope Church	Joan & Bob Schweitzer Sharyn/Steve Kahl	Carolee Calo <i>Sign-up Available</i>	Jeff & Kate Patten Steve & Sharyn Kahl
Sunday School	Rachel Morgan	Carolee Calo	Ruth Kraeger	Denise McLaughlin



# April

# 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>April showers bring May flowers</p>			<b>1</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Bible Study in the Choir Room  <b>7:00 PM</b> Bible Study in Choir Room/via Zoom	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Streets of Hope
<b>5</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Worship in the Sanctuary <b>9:00 AM</b> Continental Breakfast <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in the Sanctuary	<b>6</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Quilters 	<b>7</b> <b>10:30 AM &amp; 3:00 PM</b> All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	<b>8</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Bible Study in the Choir Room  <b>7:00 PM</b> Bible Study in Choir Room/via Zoom	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in the Sanctuary <b>11:00 AM</b> Choir Practice	<b>13</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Quilters 	<b>14</b> <b>10:30 AM &amp; 3:00 PM</b> All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	<b>15</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Bible Study in the Choir Room  <b>7:00 PM</b> Bible Study in Choir Room/via Zoom	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in the Sanctuary <b>11:00 AM</b> Choir Practice	<b>20</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Quilters  <b>7:00 PM</b> Executive Committee Meeting 	<b>21</b> <b>10:30 AM &amp; 3:00 PM</b> All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	<b>22</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Bible Study in the Choir Room  <b>7:00 PM</b> Bible Study in Choir Room/via Zoom	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in the Sanctuary <b>11:00 AM</b> Choir Practice	<b>27</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Quilters  <b>7:00 PM</b> Church Council Meeting 	<b>28</b> <b>10:30 AM &amp; 3:00 PM</b> All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	<b>29</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Bible Study in the Choir Room  <b>7:00 PM</b> Bible Study in Choir Room/via Zoom	<b>30</b>		



# *Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church*

## *Our Staff*

1901 Middleborough Rd. Baltimore, MD 21221

Interim Pastor **Eileen Kelley-Warner** • Office 410-686-7587 • Cell 443-721-9410  
E-Mail: eileenkelley1@comcast.net

Music Director: **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 8:30-1:00 PM

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

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

Council Secretary: **Denise McLaughlin** • Cell 410-6860199

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

### **Council Members at Large:**

Gina Baker	410-456-9548
Nicole Eck	443-271-4014
Colan Kahl	410-292-2544
Sharyn Kahl	410-574-3060
Lynne Lake	443-854-0708, Youth Leader
Thea Melton	410-585-5670
Dave Presnell	443-271-7488



**Articles for the May  
Messenger are due by  
Tuesday  
April 21, 2026**