

# The Messenger



&

2023



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1901 MIDDLEBOROUGH RD, ESSEX MD 21221



**"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.  
See, I am doing a new thing!"**

**Isaiah 43:18-19**



# A Christmas Message from Bishop Gohl

*How silently, how silently the wondrous Gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven  
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin  
Where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in  
O Little Town of Bethlehem, verse 3*

We live in a culture of extremes, using labels like “right” and “left,” and neatly categorizing our family, friends and neighbors as being for us or against us. We have succumbed to a pervasive permission-giving to hate others for the sake of a particular ideology. We have allowed ourselves to dismiss the sacrificial gospel-centered injunction to love our neighbor as ourselves in favor of a consumeristic approach to all things.

In the life of the church, generosity is at a low ebb, attendance is erratic, we have become divided among ourselves around in-person and online community, and what it means to be church in the waning, dragging pandemic.

And into such a malaise, Jesus comes. Not as mighty conqueror, or a supernatural “Mr. Fixit,” but enfleshed in vulnerability and hope. In a Black Friday and Cyber Monday driven world, where Christmas has become centered in an expectation of getting precisely what we want, God comes anew in the unexpected.

Arwyn and I have worked hard, to varying degrees of success, to model for our children that the joy of Christmas is not centered in us, but in Jesus. It’s not an easy task, where everything else in the world pushes us, our wants and desires, squarely to the center. Still, we persevere in resisting, with the Advent wreath in the center of our dining table, commitments to “making” Christmas for one another and our neighbors in need, carving out time to center our celebrations in worship amidst the crowds of Christmas Eve and the quiet of Christmas morning, of keeping the 12 days in defiance of a world that too quickly forgets the real gift.

Wherever you have been pressed to the extremes, overwhelmed by the pressure to produce some ridiculous notion of a “perfect” holiday, and stung by divisions; may you and yours hear again the gracious Christmas invitation to be centered, and at peace, in Jesus Christ.

*O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray  
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today  
We hear the Christmas angels, their great glad tidings tell  
Oh, come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!*

*O Little Town of Bethlehem, verse 4*

*With my love and prayers,*

The Rev. William (Bill) Gohl, Jr., Bishop

Delaware-Maryland Synod, ELCA



**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 in-person Worship Service and Holy Communion in our sanctuary on Sundays at 10:00 AM or live on our

Facebook page and YouTube Channel.

#### **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”!**

*Come Join Us on Ash Wednesday*  
*February 22, 2023*



*Drive by Ashes will be given out in the Learning  
Center parking lot from 12 Noon  
til 1 PM*

*Ash Wednesday Service will be celebrated  
at 7 PM in the Sanctuary.*





# THE POWER OF PRAYER

Edgar Amos, Jr.	Mary Ann Donnelly	Lillian Jones	Judy Crockett
Gail Anuszewski	Austin Dowell	Kay	Peddiford
Katelyn Floyd-Baier	Lynn Eckles	Joan Kincaid	Krista Pellegrini
Connie Baker	Susan Enclade	Lynn Kincaid	Evelyn Porter
Susan Baucom	Lois Farber	Michelle Kincaid	Inez Rasinski
Travis Bender	Richard Fifer	Mickey Koontz	Cass Rayman
Gail Berry	Cassandra	Matt Kretzschmar	Yvonne Ryan
Pat Berry	Fleckenstein	Sharon LaBelle	Jeff Sanders
Kathy Binas	Amy Folk	Christina Lacko	Jeanine Schenning
Mary Bodenschatz	Mike Gerard	Leah Lane	Sarah Schnept
Ryan Boninu	Pierre Gibbons	Harriett Lloyd	Joan Schweitzer
Christie Booth	Jim Gibson	Karen Loudon	Tina Sharfe
Ken Brazeros	Joyce Glover	Robyn Marshall	Barbara Shelly
Aiden Brown	Cassidy Gore	Michael McCoy	Donna Shrouder
Debbie Bryant	Trudy Grauer	Aiden McDermott	Vivian Smith
Bill Brynes	Corrine Guernsey	Ellen McKenna	John Stiemly
Brooke Burns	Barbara Hanke	John Mickos	Eloise Stumpf
William Byrnes	Donna Hanke	Marsha Millender	Mike Stumpf
Family of Blanche	Dennis Harris	Brian Miller	Phyllis Sult
Cardarelli	Shirley Harrison	Joanne Miller	
Jim Caris	Juliana Hasson	Jim Nemec	Zach Wallace
Tom Cincinnati	Beverly Hoffman	Laurie Nemec	Mary Wallington
Sharyl Clark	John Hoffman	Frank Neukam	Gail Wilson
Mary Jane Conrad	Karen Hoffman	Terry Novak	Norbert Wilson
Ed Cornelius	Karen Holzopfel	Rick O'Dea	Richard Wrobel
Shirley Cosgrove	Scott Hower	Pat Owens	Susan Yelton
Chuck DeWitt	Leondra Jefferson	Kathleen Patterson	

Our Congregation and ministries, All First Responders, Medical Personnel, all families affected by COVID-19 and all active and reserve members of our armed forces.

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

**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!

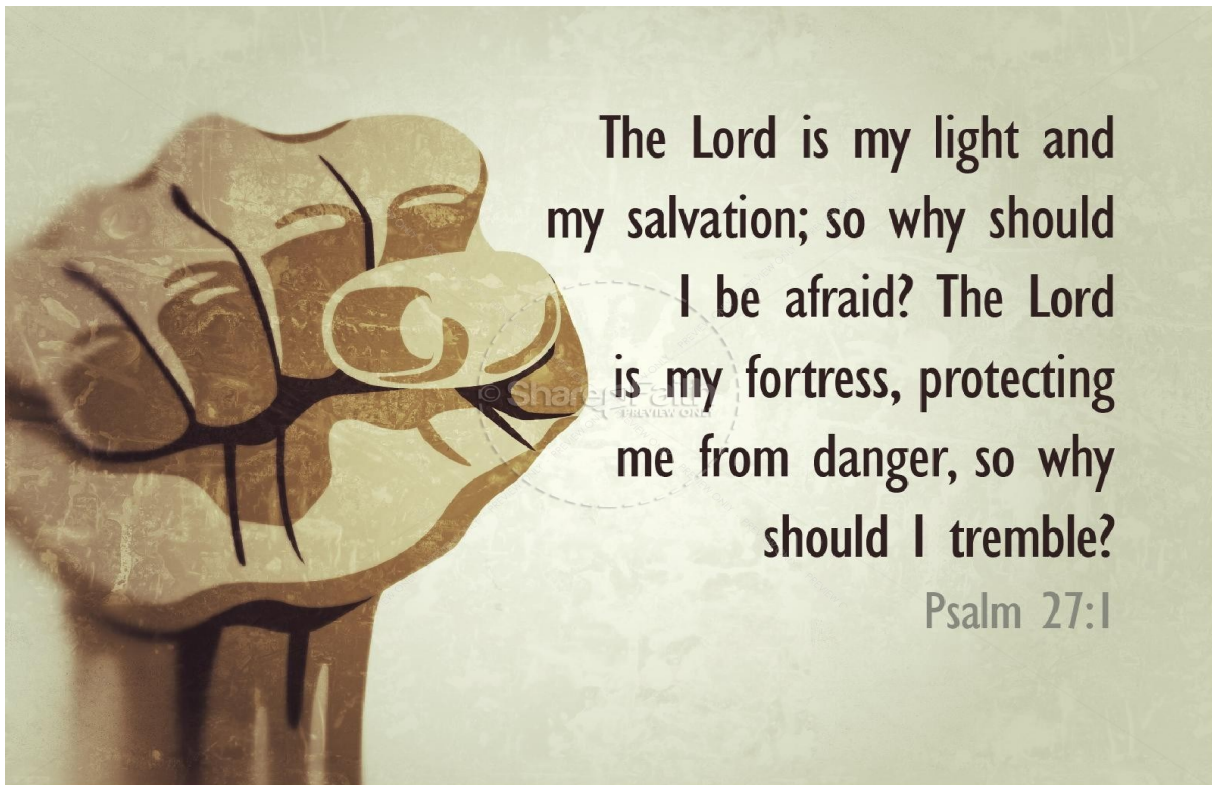
## Worship Themes in January 2023

Date/Day	Scripture texts	Theme
<b>January 1</b> <b>Name of Jesus</b>	Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 8 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:15-21	The Aaronic blessing How majestic is your name in all the earth! We are no longer slaves, but children The child is circumcised and named Jesus
<b>January 8</b> <b>Baptism of our Lord</b>	Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29 Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17	The servant of the Lord brings justice The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. Jesus' ministry after his baptism Revelation of Christ as God's servant
<b>January 15</b> <b>Second Sunday after the Epiphany</b>	Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-11 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42	The servant brings light to the nations I love to do your will, O my God Paul's greeting to the church at Corinth Revelation of Christ as the Lamb of God
<b>January 22</b> <b>Third Sunday after the Epiphany</b>	Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1, 4-9 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23	Light shines for those in darkness The Lord is my light and my salvation. Appeal for unity in the gospel Revelation of Christ as a prophet
<b>January 29</b> <b>Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany</b>	Micah 6:1-8 Psalm 15 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12	The offering of justice, kindness, humility Lord, who may abide upon your holy hill? Christ crucified, the wisdom and power of God The teaching of Christ: Beatitudes



## Worship Themes in February 2023

Date/Day	Scripture Text	Theme
<b>February 5</b> <b>Fifth Sunday</b> <b>after the</b> <b>Epiphany</b>	Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 112:1-10 1 Corinthians 2:1-16 Matthew 5:13-20	The fast God chooses Light shines in the darkness for the upright God's wisdom revealed through the Spirit The teaching of Christ: salt and light
<b>February 12</b> <b>Sixth Sunday</b> <b>After the</b> <b>Epiphany</b>	Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm 119:1-8 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 Matthew 5:21-37	Choose life Happy are they who follow the teaching of the Lord. God gives the growth The teaching of Christ: forgiveness
<b>February 19</b> <b>Transfiguration</b> <b>of Our Lord</b>	Exodus 24:12-18 Psalm 2 2 Peter 1:16-21  Matthew 17:1-9	Moses enters the cloud of God's glory on Mount Sinai You are my son, this day have I begotten you. The apostle's message confirmed on the mount of transfiguration Revelation of Christ as God's beloved son.
<b>February 26</b> <b>Lent 1</b>	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 Psalm 32 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11	Eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil Mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord. Death came through one; life comes through one The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness for forty days





# **Bible Study and Small Groups**

## **Wednesday Night Bible Study**

Zoom meetings on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM. The theme for this Winter season is “From Darkness to Light” from Augsburg Adult Bible Study Series. Please Join Us!

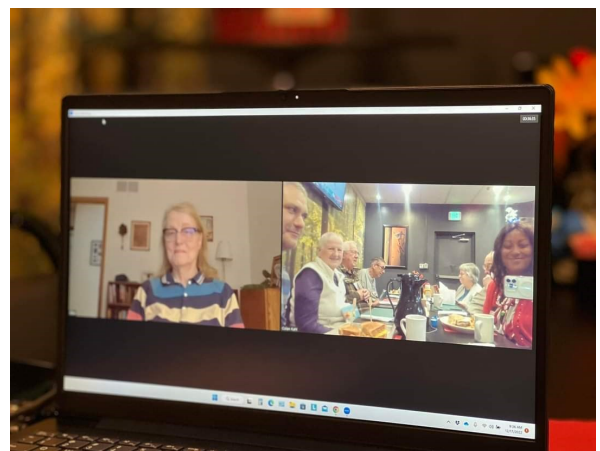
## **Saturday Morning Breakfast Bible Study**

Zoom meeting, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM every Saturday. We will be studying “From Darkness to Light”, same as the Wednesday Bible Study Group from Augsburg Adult Bible Studies.

**\*\*\*If you would like to join any of the Bible Studies, please let Pastor Meheret know and she will share links, phone number and meeting ID with you and more information. Pastor Meheret, meheretyon@gmail.com, Cell: (240) 413 7515**



Saturday Morning Bible Study. Our soul and body is fed.





## 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*



## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Happy New Year! We want to start a Children's Choir at Hope Church! For more information and to sign-up see Colin Eversley, Music Minister. We would also need a director to lead and help organize children. No experience needed.



**Never underestimate  
the power of one small  
prayer. God hears the  
heart, not the words.**

Hope in life with God

**AS A DEER LONGS  
FOR FLOWING  
STREAMS,  
SO MY SOUL LONGS  
FOR YOU, O GOD.**

Psalm 42:1



**God has been  
So Good to me.  
Even on my Worst  
days I still see His  
Blessings.**

Amen



**My goal is not to be  
better than anyone  
else, but to be better  
than I used to be.**







# Hope Ladies Christmas Dinner 2022

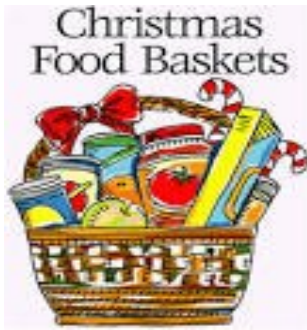


**Great food,  
great company,  
great time!**





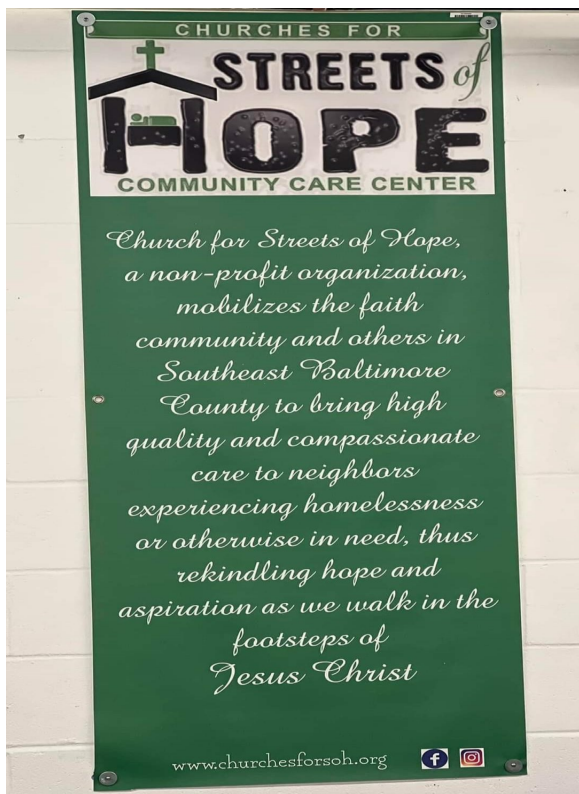
## Christmas Hope Baskets 2022



Because of your generous contributions and gifts towards Our Christmas Hope Food Baskets, we were able to reach our goal of providing Christmas Hope Food Baskets for 12 families in need in our community. Special thanks to our Outreach Ministry Team, who purchased, assembled and distributed the food and gifts. "God's work, Our hands". **Thank you and God bless you for all your generosity.**



Join us!!! We meet every Monday at 10:00 AM in the Choir Room. No professional requirements necessary. You just need to be able to sew a straight line, cut, iron material and enjoy fellowship!



## Streets of Hope

The Streets of Hope Men's Shelter is now open for the cold weather. Our church will be providing dinner on the 4th of every month. Our next time to serve is Wednesday, January 4th. If anyone would be interested in volunteering, please contact Sandy Cincinnati at 443-324-8355







***“Happy 100th Birthday”!***

*To Bea Benda on December 28th, she celebrated with her many friends and family with a big party. God’s blessings to you Bea, for another 100 years!*





# *Christmas Decorating at Hope*



We are very grateful for the ways our people decorated the church with greens, lights, mangers and poinsettias! Thank you Bob, Jeff, Eric, Colin and God bless all who climbed ladders and arranged mangers and poinsettias. The church looks wonderful!



# *Christmas Poinsettias*

*All flowers are given to the glory of God and...*



## **IN HONOR OF:**

## **GIVEN BY:**

Connie Baker	Gina Baker
Loved Ones	Eric and Marge Carl
Hope Church Family	The Caruthers Family
Our Chjldren and Grandchildren	Steve and Sharyn Kahl
Grandchildren: James, Riley, Sophia	Denise McLaughlin
Our daughters Ilse and Eden	Joan and Bob Schweitzer (2)
Hope Church, Pastor and Congregation	Karen Williams

## **GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD BY:**

Eric and Marge Carl

The Caruthers Family





**MEMORY OF:****GIVEN BY:**

Mom Baker	Gina Baker
Mom Feit	Gina Baker
All Our Loved Ones	Sean, Connie & Gabriel Baker (4)
William Benda, Sr.	Bea Benda (2)
Loved Ones	Eric and Marge Carl
Our Mother, Tsehay Alemu	The Caruthers Family
Our Father, Donald Caruthers	The Caruthers Family
Terry Melton	Thea Coker
Bill Coker	Thea Coker
Della Louise Sachs	Nicole and James Eck
Paula Jenkins	Nicole and James Eck
August Edward Sachs	Nicole and James Eck
Robert Eck, Sr.	Nicole and James Eck
Edwina Lamp	Nicole and James Eck
Loved Ones	Mary Emge
Fred Eszes	Judy and Eric Eszes
Bonnie Russo	Judy and Eric Eszes
Our Parents	Steve and Sharyn Kahl
Arlene Kelly	John Kelly
Brandon Glen Koontz	Laurie Koontz (2)
My husband, John Kraeger and My brother, Will Sheridan	Ruth Kraeger
Claudia Cox	Ron and Vicki Lesko
John and Edna Erb, Sr.	John and Carole Micklos
John W. Erb, Jr.	John and Carole Micklos
Ephthemos and Christine Micklos	John and Carole Micklos
Loved Ones	Linda Moler (2)
Leroy (Jim) Ogle	Carol Ogle
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence J. Green, Jr.	Carol Ogle
Mr. and Mrs. John Ogle, Sr.	Carol Ogle
Dolores Patten	Jeff and Kate Patten

Marge Hudgins	Jeff and Katre Patten
Stephen Patten	Jeff and Katre Patten
Frederick Hudgins	Jeff and Katre Patten
Loved Ones in Heaven	Denise McLaughlin
Loved Ones	Deloris Phillips
Doris and Barbie	Frank Schmidt (4)
Our Parents, Justus & Anna Schweitzer and Ilse Seville & Archie Wiley	Joan and Bob Schweitzer (2)
Parents, Ed and Dorothy	Ed Travers
Wife, Patricia Travers	Ed Travers
Hilda G. Diltz	The Weir Family
Mike and Clara Weir	The Weir Family
Bill and Blanche Cardarelli	The Weir Family
Connie Sweet	The Weir Family
Robert Williams	Karen Williams



**We are currently enrolling new students for our Spring programs. Please spread the word.**



**ALL STARS LEARNING CENTER:** Now enrolling for our Spring Pre-K and Before & After Care Programs. Monday—Friday, 6:30 am to 6:00 pm. Full-time and Part-time care available, ages 3-12 years old. All Stars Learning Center offers *safe, quality,* and *affordable* care within a *loving, Christian* setting. Our staff is committed to providing children with a *nurturing* environment by continually evaluating, improving, and enriching our teaching skills and techniques. We offer a **range of experiences** through our Pre-K program including *math, science, social studies, literature, language development, pre-reading* and *pre-writing skills, music, and art*. Contact us today 410-686-6060 or email [allstarscenter@yahoo.com](mailto:allstarscenter@yahoo.com).





5	Tiffany Klingenstein	19	Lilah Crout
5	Jessica Cook	20	Jack Crout
7	Elouise Norman	23	Nancy Loeffler
8	Austin Faust	25	Trudy Grauer
10	Mike Carl	25	Mary Neewary
10	Cathy Bell	27	Mary Emge
10	Victor Mulbah	29	Brett Kroner
12	Andres Buitrago	29	Evelyn Frueh
13	Frederick Neewary	31	Denise Dotterweich
17	Amanda Scanlon		





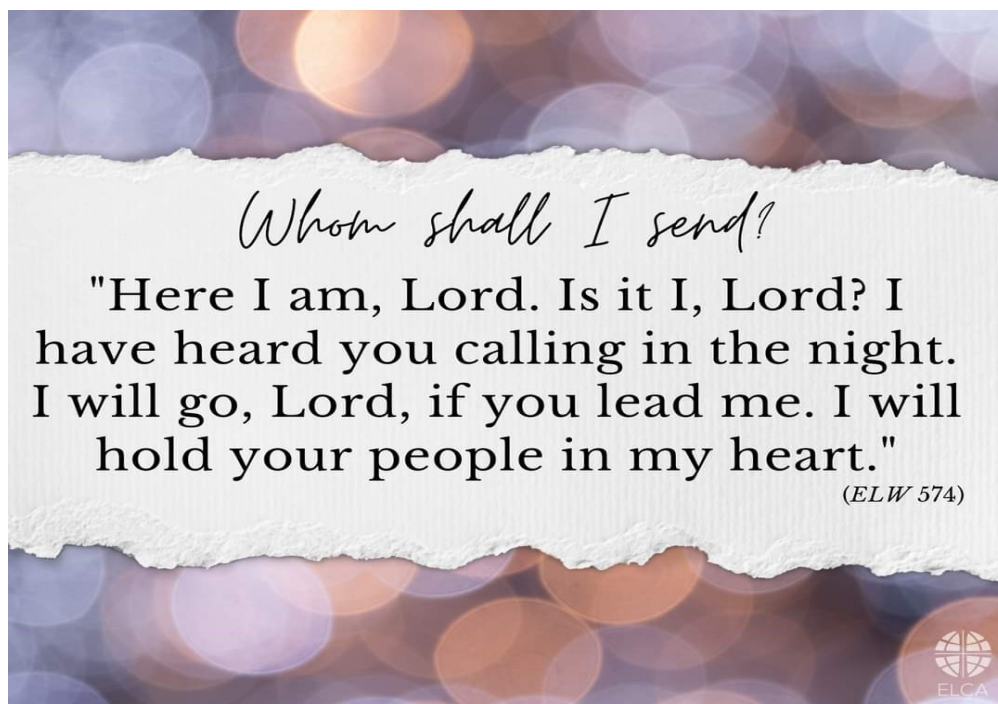
06	Debbie Cannon
09	Michelle Kroner
09	Charlotte Quante
09	Jaycie Ruggiero
11	Steve Kahl
12	Francis Kpadeh
12	Judy Eszes
18	Heather O'Donnell
18	Brianna Floystad
19	Carole Micklos
22	Mark Floyd
23	Gracie-Ann Smith
24	Queen Sackor

Please contact the office if you would like to add or remove your name from our birthday list. Thank you!



## Duty Schedule for: January 2023

10:00	Jan 1	Jan 8	Jan 15	Jan 22	Jan 29
Assist	Robin Palmer	Thea Melton	Bob Schweitzer-lead Joan Schweitzer Assist.	Colan Kahl	Eric Eszes
Lector	Debbie Cannon	Thea Coker	Beth Haught-Lector Eric Carl-Sermon	Lynne Lake	John Kelly
Serve if needed	Sandy Cincinnati	None	None	None	Colan Kahl
Ushers	Sandy Cincinnati Linda Moler	Denise McLaughlin Carol Ogle	Carolee Calo Linda Moler	Thea Melton Lynne Lake	Donna Jacob Linda Moler
Counters	Linda Moler Steve Kahl	Colan Kahl Carol Ogle	Linda Moler Joan Schweitzer	Bob Schweitzer Denise McLaughlin	Donna Jacob Steve Kahl
Flowers	Signup Available Signup Available Signup Available	Signup Available Signup Available Signup Available	Jeff & Kate Patten Carol Ogle	Signup Available Signup Available Signup Available	Signup Available Signup Available Signup Available
Sunday School	Carolee Calo	Rachel Morgan	Lynne Lake	Denise McLaughlin	Ruth Kraeger




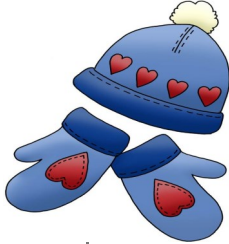













## Duty Schedule for February 2023

10:00	Feb 5	Feb 12	Feb 19	Feb 26	
Assist	Joan Schweitzer	John Kelly	Bob Schweitzer	Colan Kahl	
Lector	Thea Coker	Lynne Lake	Eric Carl	Marge Carl	
Serve if needed	None	Bob Schweitzer	None	None	
Ushers	Linda Moler Thea Melton	Lynne Lake Carolee Calo	Linda Moler Carol Ogle	Donna Jacob Eric Eszes	
Counters	Bob Schweitzer Thea Melton	Colan Kahl Joan Schweitzer	Linda Moler Denise McLaughlin	Donna Jacob Steve Kahl	
Flowers	Signup Available Signup Available	Beth Haught Signup Available	Signup Available Signup Available	Steve & Sharyn Kahl Signup Available	
Sunday School	Carolee Calo	Rachel Morgan	Lynne Lake	Denise McLaughlin	
















# January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
<b>1</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in person and online <b>11:00 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>2</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Quilters  QUILTING GROUP	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Streets of Hope <b>7:00 PM</b> Bible Study via Zoom	<b>5</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Bible Study via Zoom 
<b>8</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in person and online <b>11:00 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>9</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Quilters  QUILTING GROUP	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Bible Study via Zoom	<b>12</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Bible Study via Zoom 
<b>15</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in person and online <b>11:00 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>16</b>  <b>10:00 AM</b> Quilters <b>7:00 PM</b> Executive Committee Meeting  BOARD MEETING	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Bible Study via Zoom	<b>19</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Bible Study at 2 Guys Restaurant 
<b>22</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in person and online <b>11:00 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>23</b>  <b>10:00 AM</b> Quilters <b>7:00 PM</b> Council Meeting  Church Council	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Bible Study via Zoom	<b>26</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Bible Study via Zoom 
<b>29</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in person and online <b>11:00 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>30</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Quilters  QUILTING GROUP	<b>31</b>				



# February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Bible Study via Zoom	<b>2</b> <b>10:00 PM</b> All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	<b>3</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Streets of Hope	<b>4</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Bible Study via Zoom  <b>6:00 PM</b> Streets of Hope
<b>5</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in person and online <b>11:30 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>6</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Quilters  QUILTING GROUP	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Bible Study via Zoom	<b>9</b> <b>10:00 PM</b> All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Bible Study via Zoom  STUDY GROUP
<b>12</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in person and online <b>11:30 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>13</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Quilters  QUILTING GROUP	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Bible Study via Zoom	<b>16</b> <b>10:00 PM</b> All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Bible Study at 2 Guys Restaurant  STUDY GROUP
<b>19</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in person and online <b>11:30 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>20</b>  <b>10:00 AM</b> Quilters <b>7:00 PM</b> Council Meeting  Church Council	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Ash Wednesday Service	<b>23</b> <b>10:00 PM</b> All Stars Learning Center Chapel in Sanctuary	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Bible Study via Zoom  STUDY GROUP
<b>26</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship in person and online <b>11:30 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>27</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Quilters  QUILTING GROUP	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Bible Study via Zoom			



Thank you all so much for your continuing support for Hope and the greater church. God bless.

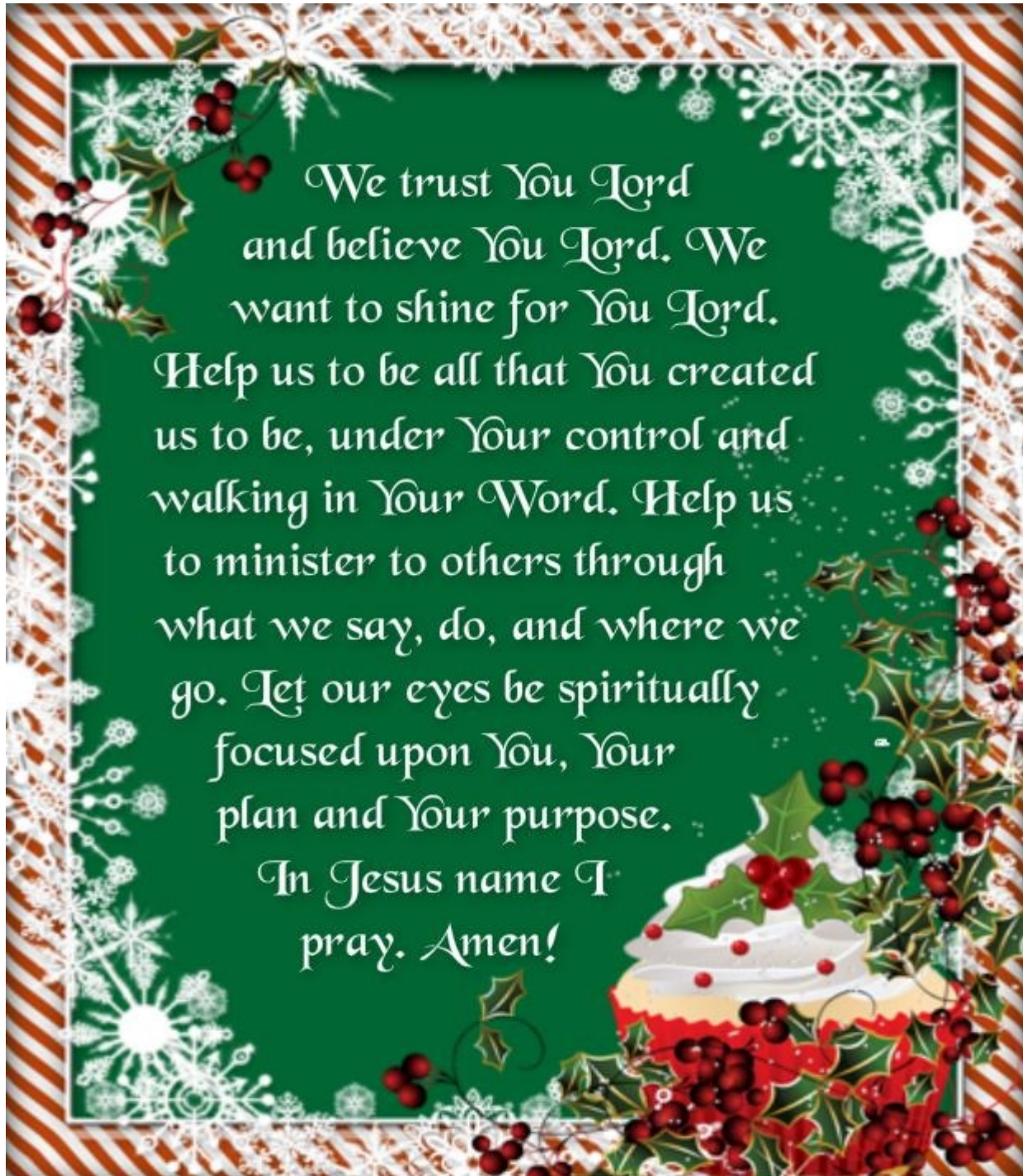
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*Hope's Staff would like to thank our Hope Church Family for our Christmas gift. It's a blessing to be a part of our Church Family and to serve you all!*

# Happy New Year! 🎉

Receive this prayer as we journey into 2023





# ***Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church***

## ***Our Staff***

1901 Middleborough Rd. Baltimore, MD 21221

Pastor **Meheret Caruthers** • Office 410-686-7587 • Cell 240-413-7515

E-Mail: meheretyon@gmail.com

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

Council President: **Colan Kahl** • Home 410-292-2544

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

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

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

**Gina Baker** - 410-456-9548

**Jack Crout** - Youth Representative

**Nicole Eck** - 443-271-4014

**Sharyn Kahl** - 410-925-2784

**Lynne Lake** - Youth Leader - 443-854-0708

**Denise McLaughlin** - 410-686-0199

**Thea Melton** - 410-585-5670



**Articles for the  
March Messenger are  
due by Tuesday  
February 21, 2023**