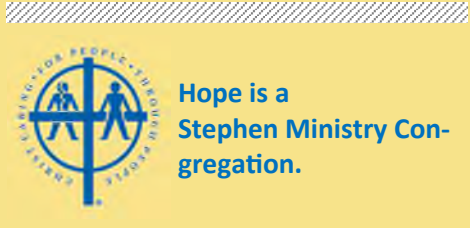


**OCTOBER EVENTS**

**October 4**  
Return to worship in the building

**October 25**  
Harvest Party at Swan Creek Park



**DISCIPLES IN TRAINING ON SUNDAYS**

Join us outside by the benches near the Indian road entrance every week at 10am starting October 4th for DIT. We will have a small snack, and activity. Please dress your children accordingly as we will be outside the entire time.

**ALTAR FLOWERS**



With a return to worship in the building, we have an opportunity to sponsor altar flowers in honor or memory of someone special. To claim a date, call the church office at 419-536-8383 or sign up on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary.

**FALL SERMON SERIES: Abound in Grace**

On Sundays October 18, October 25 and November 1st, our worship theme will be "Abound in Grace" we hope you will make every effort to participate on all three Sundays

The messages offered will help us in our journeys as faithful and generous stewards. By the power of the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament, we are molded and transformed into stewards who follow God's ways and become more Christ-like in our giving. As Christians, we are motivated to give by the gift of God's grace through his son. With hearts filled with God's love and grace, we can give faithfully.

Giving is our faith response to God's gifts. God wants us to give willingly and cheerfully out of hearts filled with love and gratitude for our present and eternal lives. We also give out of obedience because God's Word directs us to give. The Apostle Paul said, *"But just as you excel in everything ... in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us ... see that you also excel in this grace of giving"* (2 Corinthians 8:7). Just as Paul urged the people in Corinth to give, we are urged to *"excel in this grace of giving."*





**RETURN TO WORSHIP IN THE BUILDING: OCTOBER 4th**

We are excited to share that Hope will return to building for worship at 9am and 11am on Sunday, October 4th. We will be taking precautions to keep people safe including social distancing between family groups and will show our love for our neighbors by wearing masks. We will be blocking off pews & alternating which pews are used between services. The offering will be collected in baskets at the door and communion will be distributed as people leave. We will not be passing the peace. The nursery will not be available and we will not be serving coffee and cookies. For those who are not comfortable gathering in the building, we plan to continue streaming worship live on both Facebook and YouTube. We are also planning to place a speaker outside on the Indian Road side with the FM transmitter so that you can come and remain in your car or sit on the lawn. We will bring communion out at the end of the worship service so you can receive communion while maintaining safe distancing. We ask for your prayers that Lucas county not return to a "red" level so that we can continue to meet in person and in the building for those who desire to.

## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS & FUN COMPETITION

As we look forward to the birth of Jesus, the light of the world, let's join our brothers and sisters in Christ to light up our neighborhoods with the love and warmth of Christ. This year, we are leading a contest with other neighborhood churches. Join us and represent Hope Lutheran Church as we compete to have the "Best Decorated House" and help start conversation about Jesus Christ, the light of the world and the source of joy and love this holiday season. More details will be available soon, but you can participate by decorating the exterior of your house and registering it on our official map for Parade of Homes or participate as a judge, voting for your favorite home during the contest. Donations from registering and voting will be given to a local charity lifted up by participating congregations.



## HARVEST FESTIVAL



Come get into the fall spirit at Hope's Harvest Festival on Sunday, October 25th, from 2-3pm. This event will be taking place outside at Swan Creek Park (Mary Jane Gill Pavilion). Listen to music while you carve a pumpkin and then take it home! Pumpkin and carving materials provided. Please email Katie at kgarver-ick@hopetoledo.net with questions.

## BACKPACKS OF HOPE AT OLD ORCHARD

We are continuing our backpacks of Hope program for families at Old Orchard Elementary. This year we are supporting 20 families with backpacks of food for the weekends. However, while students are learning in a remote or hybrid model and are therefore at home more than in the building, we have adjusted what we are sending home to better support them. Donations can be dropped off at Hope during business hours or brought to a worship service.



- Regular-size box of (non-sugary) cereal
- Box of Macaroni and Cheese
- Cans of Spaghettios, Vegetables, Soup, Baked Beans
- Juice Boxes (100% juice)
- Individual applesauce or fruit cups
- Peanut butter
- Cans of tuna or chicken

## THANKS PEGGY!

After 5 faithful years at Hope as our Financial Secretary, Peggy Miller is retiring. We give thanks for Peggy's great work and pray that God will bless her next chapter.

On September 28th, we welcomed Hope Tobokoue as our new Financial Secretary. Hope comes to us with a wealth of experience in QuickBooks and accounting.



## CHILDREN AND YOUTH FAITH MILESTONES

At the end of August, we finally celebrated First Communion with 5 young people who began first communion classes back in the spring. On September 27 we celebrated Confirmation as 5 youth affirmed their faith during our outdoor worship service. This year's confirmation class began online with the goal of moving to in person meetings this month. We give thanks for the prayers you have already offered and ask for your continued prayers for our young people as they continue their faith journeys and celebrate faith milestones in new ways.

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

With a return to worship in the building, we want to ensure that every guest receives a warm Hope welcome and that worship is as vibrant as always. If you are interested in serving on the welcome team at either worship time or reading Scripture at 11:00, please call the church office.

## HOPE FOR SALEM WORKDAYS

On Saturdays, October 10th & 24th, we will be having work days to clean up and demo in preparation for the renovation of the Hope for Salem House. We will work from 8:00 until noon with a light lunch following. We will have masks, gloves and eye protection. To sign up and join the fun, call the church office.

