

NOVEMBER EVENTS

November 1

All Saints Sunday
Consecration Sunday

LOOKING AHEAD

December 24

Christmas Eve worship at 3:00, 5:00, and 7:00 pm

December 25

Christmas Day worship at 10:00 am



Hope is a
Stephen Ministry Con-
gregation.

GIVING: OBLIGATION OR OPPORTUNITY?

As the Apostle Paul traveled to churches, he collected offerings for the Christians in Jerusalem who were experiencing hard economic times. When Paul was speaking to the Corinthians, he used the Macedonian believers as an example of people who, in spite of their own economic troubles, gave joyfully to the people in Jerusalem. The Macedonians' love for Christ and their concern for their fellow believers moved them to give beyond their ability. They excelled in the grace of giving. The Macedonians gave themselves first to the Lord, and then, Paul said, they "urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints" (2 Corinthians 8:4). In Christ, they saw their giving as an opportunity to help other believers in need.



Does someone who views giving as an obligation plead for the opportunity to give? Probably not. When giving is an obligation, we will give, but giving as an obligation will not give us the joy or the attitude of pleading for the privilege to give as the Macedonians had. As God's people, we have both an obligation and an opportunity. Scripture is clear that we are called to give. Paul said, "On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made" (1 Corinthians 16:2).

Giving is an obligation, but, just as God changed the hearts and minds of the Macedonian people, he changes us so we view our giving as an opportunity rather than an obligation. As renewed and transformed people, our attitudes toward giving change from a "got to" to a "get to" attitude. We stop giving grudgingly, and we start to Abound in Grace by giving willingly and cheerfully. We want to give, because giving is an expression of our love and gratitude to God for who he is and what he does for us. The more we give of ourselves and our gifts the closer our relationship with Christ becomes and the more we want to give, and the more God blesses us, enabling our continued giving. "You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God" (2 Corinthians 9:11). We thank God that he fills us daily with his love so that we as members of his Body here at our church see giving as a privilege and an opportunity to praise and thank him.



SERMON SERIES: FAITHFUL TO THE END

These three Sundays are the last three Sundays in the church year. We move from All Saints and remembering those who have finished the race and died in the faith to Jesus instructions for us who are still running the race. We are to be "Faithful to the End." Each week we will explore a well known parable from Matthew as Jesus prepares us for the time such as this.

11/8	Keep Awake	Matthew 25:1-13
11/15	Trustworthy	Matthew 25:14-30
11/22	Where did we see you?	Matthew 25:21-46



2021 ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARD

Here are some commonly asked questions the Finance Team receives:

Why should I turn in an Estimate of Giving card for 2021?

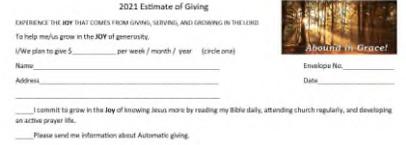
We will develop a budget for 2021 based on the collective giving of all our contributors. We are able to give more in our budget to people in need when we know how much income we will receive.

What if my financial position changes during 2021?

We know this may happen, and if your financial position changes, just contact our financial secretary Hope Tobokoue and make your needed adjustments. This is why we call the card an **Estimate** of Giving.

What if I cannot be present on November 1 to turn in my Estimate of Giving card?

We will send you a follow-up letter with an Estimate of Giving card if we miss you on November 1. You may also contact Hope Tobokoue in the church office to complete your card.



DISCIPLES IN TRAINING ARE COLLECTING FOR THANKSGIVING BAGS

In connection to Backpacks of Hope, DIT will be filling 20 special Thanksgiving bags for the families we support. Each bag will include:

- 1 box/bag of stuffing mix
- 2 boxes of macaroni and cheese
- 1 can cream of mushroom
- 1 jar of applesauce (not glass)
- 1-2 boxes of brownie or cake mix
- 1-2 packages of instant mashed potatoes
- 2 cans of green beans
- 2 cans of corn
- 1 box of cereal
- Reusable grocery bags



There will be a white basket across from the nursery for the Thanksgiving bags. We ask that each family try to fill up one bag. If you have any questions contact Katie at kgarverick@hopetoledo.net



HOPE FOR SALEM HOUSE

Thank you to everyone who has worked at our Hope for Salem renovation project! Each week we move closer to making this project a reality! In October, we installed work lights, and dug 2ft x 2ft x 1 ft deep holes in the crawl space for the concrete pads which will be used to support the floor. Digging between floor joists is a difficult and tiring job! We also built wood forms for the concrete pads and installed the required rebars.

Our next dates are Saturday, November 7 & 21 from 8 am until noon. YOU are invited to join us. Just call the church office @ 419-536-8383 to register.



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

All Saints' Sunday is a day that the church has set aside to remember all those who have died in the faith during the last 12 months. Our time of remembering will be Nov. 1 during each worship service for Consecration Sunday. During our prayers, we will name those who have passed away during the year.





ADVENT



CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION

Epworth United Methodist Church, St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church, and Hope Lutheran Church invite you to join in a home lights display contest this December. You can participate by registering and decorating your house for the Let Your Light Shine home tour. Then in December, participate in the tour and judge (or simply enjoy) the lights. To register your decorated house, email your address, desire to participate, and church affiliation to ChurchLites@gmail.com by November 22. The suggested donation to register a house is \$10 and can be made out to your own congregation, designated "Let your Light Shine". The tour and judging will begin on December 4, so make sure to have home decorated by then. All funds raised will be given to charity at the end of the event. We hope you join us in filling our neighborhoods with the light, joy, and love of Christ this holiday season!



CHRISTMAS TREE SALE



St Michael's Church is partnering with Walker Christmas Tree Farm to benefit Vision Ministries and Seagate Food Bank.

Step 1: Reserve the tree of your choice at Walker Tree Farm on November 7th or 8th with a \$25 deposit or call 567-694-6190.

Step 2: Pick up your tree between noon and 3:00 pm December 5th at St Michael's in the Hills. Pay the balance when you pick up your tree.

Walker Tree Farm is located at 5320 Samaria Rd, Ottawa Lake, MI

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

This year, we will still be having a Children's Christmas program, but like so many other things the format will be different. Every family that wants to participate will be given a scene that they can act out and record at home to make our very own Christmas program video starring all of you! If you are interested in participating, contact Pastor Kristin at pastorkristin@hopetoledo.net. Scripts and directions will be distributed later in November.



LOOKING AHEAD TO ADVENT

On Sunday November 29th we enter Advent and begin our new sermon series "Incarnation."

During Advent we will again be gathering items for our ministry partners. We are still working to find out what needs they have but we do know that we will be collecting Kroger and McDonald gifts cards for Salem.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

3:00 Family Service in the Park

5:00 Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

7:00 Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>9:00 AM- Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary) 10:00 AM- Disciples in Training (Downstairs) 11:00 AM- Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>11:00 AM- Staff Meeting 7:30 PM- Alanon (Larson Hall)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>12:00 PM- Lunches with Luther 7:00 PM- Vision Team 8:00 PM-AA (Larson Hall)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:00 PM- Confirmation (Nest)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:30 PM-AA Gratitude Mtg (Larson Hall)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 AM- Toastmasters (Nest) 5:30 PM- Spencer Wedding Rehearsal (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00 AM- Hope for Salem Work Day 2:00 PM- Spencer Wedding (Sanctuary)</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:00 AM- Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary) 10:00 AM- Disciples in Training (Downstairs) 11:00 AM- Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>11:00 AM- Staff Meeting 7:30 PM- Alanon (Larson Hall)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>12:00 PM- Lunches with Luther 4:00 PM- Reformed Love Meal (Salem Church) 7:00 PM- Mission Outreach (Zoom) 8:00 PM-AA (Larson Hall)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:00 PM- Confirmation (Nest)</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 AM- Toastmasters (Nest)</p>	<p>14</p> 
<p>15</p> <p>9:00 AM- Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary) 10:00 AM- Disciples in Training (Downstairs) 11:00 AM- Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>11:00 AM- Staff Meeting 7:30 PM- Alanon (Larson Hall)</p> 	<p>17</p> <p>12:00 PM- Lunches with Luther 8:00 PM-AA (Larson Hall)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:00 PM- Confirmation (Nest)</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7:00 AM- Toastmasters (Nest) 5:30 PM- Garverick Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 6:30 PM- Garverick Rehearsal Dinner (Nest)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00 AM- Hope for Salem Work Day 2:30 PM- Garverick Wedding (Sanctuary)</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:00 AM- Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary) 10:00 AM- Disciples in Training (Downstairs) 11:00 AM- Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>11:00 AM- Staff Meeting 7:30 PM- Alanon (Larson Hall)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:00 PM-AA (Larson Hall)</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Thanksgiving Office Closed</p> 	<p>27</p> <p>Office Closed 7:00 AM- Toastmasters (Nest)</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:00 AM- Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary) 10:00 AM- Disciples in Training (Downstairs) 11:00 AM- Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>11:00 AM- Staff Meeting 7:30 PM- Alanon (Larson Hall)</p>	<p>GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD <i>His LOVE endures FOREVER!!!</i></p>				