

DECEMBER EVENTS

December 24

Christmas Eve Service, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00 p.m.

December 25

Christmas Day Service, 10:00 a.m.

December 29

Lessons and Carols, 9:00 & 11:00 am

LOOKING AHEAD

February 17 Ash Wednesday



Hope is a
Stephen Ministry Con-
gregation.

ADVENT SERMON SERIES: INCARNATION REDISCOVERING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF CHRISTMAS

His parents gave him the name Jesus. But the prophets, the shepherds, the wise men, and the angels addressed him by other names. They called him Lord, Messiah, Savior, Emmanuel, Light of the World, and Word Made Flesh. This Advent season we will explore the names for Jesus used by the Gospel writers, exploring the historical and personal significance of his birth. In the face of uncertainty and conflict, Christians reclaim the Christ Child who brings us together, heals our hearts, and calls us to bring light into the darkness.

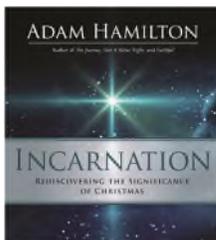


Now more than ever, we invite you to reflect upon the significance of the Christ-child for our lives and world today!

11/29	Presidents and Kings
12/6	Savior and our Need for Saving
12/13	Emmanuel in a Pandemic
12/20	Light of the World

ADVENT BOOK STUDY

Pastor Kevin will be leading an online study of the book "Incarnation" by Adam Hamilton. There will be two sessions, Monday evenings at 7 PM beginning November 30th and Tuesdays at Noon beginning December 1st. To participate we encourage you to pick up the book or download an electronic copy. To be added to the class you can either email Pastor Kevin or for Mondays send a text message to the church at (419-595-4591) with the keyword "Advent". To join Tuesdays send the keyword "Lunches" to the same text number.



ADVENT DONATIONS FOR PEOPLE IN NEED

As our tradition at Hope continues we will be gathering items each week to benefit our ministry partners and bless others. As we have experienced the loss of tradition after tradition because of the spread of coronavirus I am thankful that this tradition can go forward.

Date	Collection Goal	Donated to
Nov 29	\$10 Kroger or \$5 McDonald's food cards (\$2,000 total)	Salem Lutheran
Dec. 6	500 Laundry Pods & 500 rolls of Toilet Paper	Redeemer Lutheran
Dec. 13	300 toothbrushes, 300 bars of soap, 100 sticks of deodorant	Old Orchard Elementary
Dec. 20	500 pair of socks	Martin Luther King Kitchen for the Poor

Collection boxes will be by the Secor & Indian entrances to the church. As always, if you would like to support this collection and would prefer someone else shop, you can send a check to the church or place it in the offering basket and note that it is for our Advent collections and we will get what is needed to meet our goals. If you would like to shop online, just have your donation shipped directly to the church and save yourself a trip.

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT HOPE

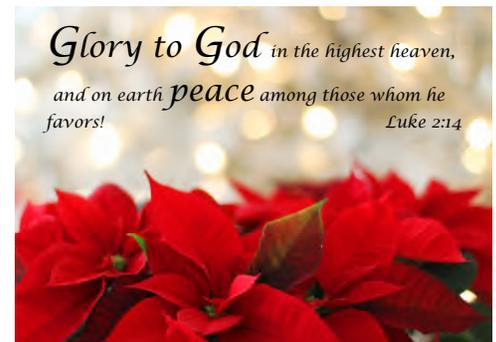
LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

If you love looking at Christmas lights or are looking for a safe and fun weekend activity – this is for you. Maps will be available online by December 3 and in print over the weekend for the Let Your Light Shine Tour of Homes. While lights may be on at other times, the official hours/days are December 4-6 and 11-13 from 4pm – 9pm. If you would like a map, send an email to ChurchLites@gmail.com. If you would prefer a print rather than digital version, contact the church office. Everyone is welcome to enjoy the lights. If you would like to help us as a judge, there will be a link to a ballot along with your map (or ballot attached to print maps). Fill out your ballot with a suggested \$5 donation (giving instructions included). All proceeds will be given to a charity chosen by the winning home. The two charities Hope is lifting up are ministries at Salem Lutheran Church and our partnership with Old Orchard Elementary through Backpacks of Hope.



AN INVITATION TO HOPE

Research has found that most people without a church home are most interested in worship at Christmas. The biggest factor determining whether they will attend is a personal invitation. Who might you invite to hear the great news of Christmas? High-quality imprinted invitations are available each week in Advent to help you invite others to our outdoor and online Christmas Eve & Christmas Day worship services. You can also share and invite others through our Facebook event and graphics. Time and time again people comment how great our Christmas Eve services are, and this is your chance to share that with others.



FOLLOWING THE STAR TO BETHLEHEM

For our Children's Christmas Program this year, our children will be telling the stories of the people of Bethlehem as they watched the star rise and prepared for the birth of the Messiah. The program will not be shared in person during worship this year. Instead families are creating Bethlehem sets in their homes to record part of the story. Then the program will be recorded and shared with the congregation via email later this month.



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

There will be 3 worship services on Christmas Eve:

3:00 Family Service in the park

5:00 Traditional Service

7:00 Traditional Service

Communion and Candlelight will be at all services.

A Christmas Day service will be held on Christmas morning at 10:00 a.m.



CONSECRATION SUNDAY UPDATE

On Consecration Sunday we celebrated All Saints Day and the many blessings God has given us through worship, candles, and fellowship. Over the past few weeks our emphasis has been "Abound in Grace." We now have the opportunity to express the generosity which God has given us by completing an Estimate of Giving Card for 2021.

For all of you who have turned in your 2021 Giving Card, thank you very much! Based on the preliminary results, Hope is extremely blessed! If you have not yet returned your 2021 Giving Card, please do so as soon as possible. Your generosity will change lives, including yours!



YEAR-END STOCK & IRA CONTRIBUTIONS

As Christians, we believe in being good stewards of what God has entrusted to us. In this season of giving, we encourage you to consider the advantages of giving stock to Hope Lutheran Church. By donating appreciated stock to a charitable organization, you avoid paying capital gains tax on the increased value of the stock. You may also be able to take a deduction for the market value of the stock at the time it was given. Please consult your tax advisor. If you plan to give securities to the Church, please notify Hope Tobokoue at (419) 536-8383 to help initiate the process.

Another option is making a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) from your IRA. People older than 70½ can transfer up to \$100,000 per year from their traditional IRAs to charity, which can count as their required minimum distribution but is not taxable if they follow the rules for a QCD. The gift stays out of your adjusted gross income only if you make a direct transfer from your IRA to the charity. It doesn't count as a tax-free transfer if you withdraw the money first and then make a donation to the charity. Please consult your tax advisor.

REQUEST FROM MLK KITCHEN FOR THE POOR

Martin Luther King Kitchen for the Poor is in desperate need of gently loved clothing for their clients. Winter clothing (coats, jackets, gloves, boots and hats) as well as blankets are a top priority. If you have any donations, please drop them off at MLK Kitchen for the Poor, or call Nita Clere at (419) 265-7583 to arrange for a pick up. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

HOPE FOR SALEM HOUSE

We extend a huge thankyou to all who donated their time and efforts to help on the Hope for Salem House project. We have made amazing progress! All the necessary demolition is complete and the new construction has begun. New concrete pads to support the first floor have been poured. New support beams will be added soon. In January and February, we expect to remove the existing back porch and continue to rebuild and reinforce the building. When all is complete, the 100 year old structure will be in compliance with 2020 building code.

We plan to work through the winter with the necessary Covid-19 precautions. We give thanks to God for many blessings that have made this project so successful. We are blessed with a general contractor to give wise oversight and kind direction, friends from Salem Lutheran Church that we have made along the way, concrete plants who open on weekends, favorable weather, and the safety of all our volunteers. We leave with an indescribable joy every time.

You are welcome to join us December 5th & 19th from 8:00 to noon. To sign up, just call the church office.

2020 YEAR-END GIFTS

As you plan your year-end giving, please note that the last day the office will be open in 2020 is Thursday, December 31 **until noon**. You may also place your year-end contribution in the offering on Sunday, December 27. Contributions postmarked by the 31st will be counted towards 2020 giving.



Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
		1 12:00 PM- Lunches with Luther 7:00 PM-Vision Team (online) 8:00 PM-AA (Larson Hall)	2	3	4	5 8:00 AM- Hope for Salem Work Day
6 9:00 AM- Contemporary Worship 11:00 AM- Traditional Worship	7 7:00 PM- Incarnation Study (online) 7:30 PM- Alanon (Larson Hall)	8 12:00 PM- Lunches with Luther (online) 4:00 PM- Reformed Love Meal (Salem) 8:00 PM-AA (Larson Hall)	9	10	11	12
13 9:00 AM- Contemporary Worship 11:00 AM- Traditional Worship	14 7:00 PM- Incarnation Study (online) 7:30 PM- Alanon (Larson Hall)	15 12:00 PM- Lunches with Luther (online) 8:00 PM-AA (Larson Hall)	16	17	18	19 8:00 AM- Hope for Salem Work Day
20 9:00 AM- Contemporary Worship 11:00 AM- Traditional Worship	21 7:00 PM- Incarnation Study (online) 7:30 PM- Alanon (Larson Hall)	22 8:00 PM-AA (Larson Hall)	23 	24 3:00 PM- Christmas Eve Worship in the Park 5:00 PM- Christmas Eve Worship (Sanctuary) 7:00 PM- Christmas Eve Worship (Sanctuary)	25 10:00 AM- Christmas Worship (Sanctuary)	26
27 9:00 AM- Contemporary Worship 11:00 AM- Traditional Worship	28 7:30 PM- Alanon (Larson Hall)	29 8:00 PM-AA (Larson Hall)	30	31		

For the most up to date calendar please visit the website at hopetoledo.net