

LENT

March 2
Ash Wednesday Worship
noon & 7:00 pm

HOLY WEEK

April 10
Palm Sunday

April 14
Maundy Thursday Worship, 7:00

April 15
Good Friday Worship, noon & 7:00

April 17
Easter Sunday



Hope is a
Stephen Ministry
Congregation.

SUNDAYS IN LENT: TURNING

In John's Gospel, we are dizzied by all of the turning: God turning toward humanity's pain as Jesus weeps at raw and unbearable grief; Jesus turning the stench of Lazarus' death into something confusingly hopeful; Jesus turning into a servant, stooping to wash feet, turning them toward loving and serving their neighbor.



Then humanity's turning away: Peter turning his back on his best friend; Pilate turning and twisting the truth for political gain; The fickle and riled up crowds turning from "hosanna" to "crucify." Then the turning of the earth as grave becomes garden, death turns to life, mourning to dancing.

John's Gospel invites us into a season of intentional turning. Our hearts turn with compassion for those who grieve. Our lives turn toward our neighbor in acts of solidarity and service. Our eyes turn toward the cross and we see Jesus turning the world upside down with love.

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| 03/02/22 | Turning toward the cross | John 10:1-18 (Ash Wed.) |
| 03/06/22 | Word turns Flesh | John 11:1-44 |
| 03/13/22 | Master turns Servant | John 13:1-17 |
| 03/20/22 | Disciple turns Denier | John 18:12-27 |
| 03/27/22 | Hero turns Criminal | John 18:28-40 |
| 04/03/21 | Praising turns to Taunting | John 19:1-16a |
| 04/10/21 | Hosanna turns to Crucify | John 19:16b-22 |

**ASH WEDNESDAY
MARCH 2**



Ash Wednesday worship will be in-person and online at noon and 7:00 pm. Both services will include Holy Communion and imposition of ashes.

LENTEN MEALS & DEVOTIONS

Do you miss Lenten Soup Suppers? We have heard from several families how much they miss those Wednesday meals. We recognize that gathering lots of people without masks to eat together may still not be wise, however, we aren't willing to forgo the meals this year. This year we will offer a soup meal that can be picked up after either worship service on Sunday that you can take home and heat up whichever night your family can eat together. We'll include devotions for the table conversation. Each week, you can RSVP the numbers and any food allergies by calling the office or on the connection cards. We will have a meal ready the following week! A free-will offering will be received to cover the costs.



SUNDAY WORSHIP: 9 a.m. Contemporary Service | 10:10 a.m. Spiritual Development | 11 a.m. Traditional Service

CONTACT: office@hopetoledo.net | 419.536.8383 | www.hopetoledo.net | 2201 Secor Rd., Toledo, OH 43606

BACKPACKS OF HOPE

We continue to send home bags of food for 12 families at Old Orchard every week. Thanks for your continued donations and support! Items we regularly need are boxes of macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, tuna, cans of soup, pasta, and veggies and juice boxes. Monetary donations designated for Backpacks of Hope will go towards purchasing milk and other items need any given week.



“SPRING BREAK BOXES” FOR BACKPACKS OF HOPE

This Lent, fill a spring break box for our Backpack of Hope families. What is a spring break box? It's a box filled with food to help support families over break when school breakfast and lunches are not available. Add in a few craft or activity items just for fun. While the exact contents of the box can vary, a list of suggestions is available from Pastor Kristin. Think about adding a few items every week during Lent and then returning the box to Hope by Sunday, April 10 for distribution that week. (TPS spring break begins April 15.) Don't want to do a whole box? Sign up for half a box and Pastor Kristin will match you with another family. Contact Pastor Kristin pastorkristin@hopetoledo.net or the office for more details or to sign up. Don't want to shop, but want to help? Donations designated for Backpacks of Hope are always welcome to support this ministry.



“ADOPT” AN OLD ORCHARD TEACHER OR STAFF

While we do a lot to support students at Old Orchard, this is an opportunity to support the teachers and staff as well. What does this involve? It's simple – a personal card of encouragement and a \$20-\$25 gift card (i.e. local coffee, dining, Target or Amazon). With the timing of TPS spring break, there is only a month of school between spring break and the end of the year – so it's a perfect time to remind teachers we remember and support them! Sign up with Pastor Kristin pastorkristin@hopetoledo.net or call the office. Once you sign up, you'll be given the name of a teacher or staff member. Cards & gift cards are due back to Hope by Sunday, April 10.



HOPE FOR SALEM: UPDATE

The Hope for Salem house is an ongoing project near Salem Lutheran Church. The structure, damaged by fire, will soon become a home for ministry and a 2nd floor apartment. We are continuing to remove the old under-sized ceiling joists and the attached flooring of the 2nd floor. As we go, we are replacing them with new properly sized joists and new level subflooring. Each workday concludes with a tasty lunch provided by Mona Pupos.

YOU are invited to join us. You may call the church office or Roger Smith @ 419-202-3779. We are scheduled to work 8:00 am—noon **March 5 & 19**. Come join the fun!



CONGREGATION APPROVES 2022 BUDGET

On February 6, Hope members gathered to review and approve the 2022 budget as well as use of the proceeds from the sale of the house.

Copies of the 2021 Annual Report are available in the office. The report includes recaps of the year from Pastor Kevin, Pastor Kristin, Gail Mowry and the office along with detailed financial information.

TOGETHER IN CHANGE

If you find yourself dealing with the loss of a spouse or partner, you know that grief has no timeline or end date. Our purpose is to be a social outlet and fellowship for anyone adjusting to their new lifestyle, at any point along the journey. We will meet Thursday March 17th at 1 pm at Rosie's (606 N McCord). RSVP to Helen at 419-509-6143

NO DIT ON MARCH 20

DIT will be on spring break March 20, so we will not have children's activities between worship services that day.

TODDLER & PRESCHOOL PLAYDATES

As we look towards spring, we are hoping to bring back monthly toddler & preschool playdates in April. If you have children in this age group and would like more information, contact Pastor Kristin (pastorkristin@hopetoledo.net). If you are interested in helping plan a month's activity, let Pastor Kristin know that too!

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

High school youth group activities for March and April are being planned now. Make sure Pastor Kristin has your email address or phone number to stay informed!

HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER MISSION TRIP

With the cancellation of the ELCA youth gathering, the high school youth will now be going on a mission trip with Next Step Ministries to Columbia, SC from July 24-30. If you are interested in going, contact Pastor Kristin ASAP for information or to register.

PAINTING CLASS APRIL 2ND

Looking for a fun filled activity to get in touch with your creative side? Look no further! Hope is hosting a painting party in Larson Hall on April 2nd at 2:30 pm. This is a great opportunity to invite your friends that maybe don't have a church home to join us in a non-threatening environment. We will be creating a spring themed painting to get us in the mood for spring.



All painting supplies will be included in your \$35 fee. Snacks and soft drinks will be provided. If there is a concern with the fee, please feel free to reach out. The deadline to sign up is March 26th.

FIRST COMMUNION



We are excited for another class of First Communion students. They will receive their Bibles during worship on March 6 and begin classes that evening at 5pm. If you missed signing your child up for First communion, it's not too late. Contact the office today! And please keep this group of 2nd graders in your prayers!



SAVE THE DATE: VBS, JUNE 20 - 24

We are excited to offer VBS again this year. We hope to have registration details available sometime in April. We are currently looking for volunteers to help with decorations and planning activity stations. Contact Pastor Kristin (pastorkristin@hopetoledo.net) for more information. If you are interested in being an age group leader or assistant – put the dates on your calendar now, we'll be looking for those volunteers next month!

9am – 12:15pm June 20-24, 2022
Preschool – 4th grade
5th grade – adult are invited to volunteer!