

Hope Lutheran Church Newsletter

www.hopeonbluerock.org

January 2023

WELCOME HOME!

INSPIRING WORSHIP IN-PERSON &
LIVESTREAMCHILDREN'S CHURCH DURING
WORSHIP



Enjoy Inspiring Worship Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. in-person or on livestream. Visit the Worship tab at hopeonbluerock.org for information on how to view livestream or recorded worship videos, to view weekly bulletins, and more. If you have questions or concerns regarding worship, contact **Joy Ivins**, Chair of Worship & Music Committee.

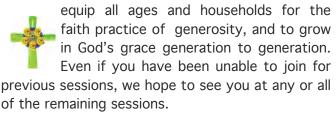
Pastor Christie

NEXT GENEROSITY SESSION

January 8th 11 AM

Thank you to all who have participated in the first two sessions of The Generosity Project! We have had a wonderful time of fun, sharing, and fellowship together as we learn more about God's abundant generosity in our lives.

As a reminder – ALL ARE WELCOME! The goals of the project are to connect people ages 2 to 102,



Sessions take place after worship, with lunch provided, on the following Sundays: 1/8, 2/5, 3/5.

Sign up to participate in the narthex or online at hopeonbluerock.org/generosity We hope to see EVERYONE there!

Pastor Christie

DEVOTIONALS ON COUNTER

Be sure to pick up your new quarterly "Christ In Our Home" devotional that is available in the Narthex.



"The time is always right to do what is right." Martin Luther King

SAVE THESE DATES"

January 8th - A short meeting after worship to elect the 2023 Congregational Council members prior to the Generosity Session.



President Worship/Music Chair Outreach CoChairs

Returning members:
Spiritual Life/ VP
Financial Secretary
Treasurer
Secretary
Christian Education
Generosity Chair
Property/Maintenance
Fellowship Chair
Digital Ministry

Sue Millard Joy Ivins Becky Lister Linda McBride

Lana Albright
Ron Long
Chris Arany
Debbie Schrader
Erica Leppert
Bonnie Long
Chuck Hasdorff
Karen Schweinfest
Jerry Ivins
Pastor Christie

January 29th - the annual Congregational meeting after worship.

COME TO CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH US!





May 2023 be a happy and healthy year for everyone!

PR. CHRISTIE'S CORNER

Epiphany: The Season of Light

"On entering the house, [the magi] saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." – Matthew 2:11



Though a popular Christmas song might tell us to expect 12 drummers drumming on the 12th day of Christmas, we in the church celebrate something different on that twelfth day: Epiphany. The "Epiphany of our Lord" is celebrated annually on January 6, which is twelve days after Christmas. The purpose of this day is to celebrate the journey and arrival of the magi who followed the star and came to visit the newborn Christ child.

We celebrate Epiphany on the 6th of January, but we continue the celebration in the Time After



Epiphany, which continues for 5 more weeks. This time during and after Epiphany is often referred to as the "Season of Light."

Why do we call the Magi's unusual visit to the Christ child "Epiphany"? And why do we refer to the following weeks as the "Season of Light"?

An "epiphany" is a revelation, or an "aha moment." The visit to the Christ child was an "aha moment" for the Magi. They came bearing gifts for Jesus, but they discovered that the gift-giving was quite the other way around: it is Jesus who gives the ultimate gift to us.

The title "Season of Light" draws on the journey of the Magi as they follow the star, coming from darkness into light. This journey into light happens literally, as the Magi's nighttime journey is gradually illuminated by the brightness of the star. The journey into light also happens figuratively, as the Magi learn who Jesus is and have that "Epiphany" moment at the end of their journey.

On Epiphany Sunday and in the following weeks, our lectionary texts will feature many "aha moments," and will give us many more opportunities to see the many aspects of who Jesus is. I invite you to take this time to get curious: What is God up to in our lives? What are the "aha moments" that God is putting in our path? And how can we follow the light in our journeys toward Christ?

May God's blessings abound to all of you in this new year,

Pastor Christie

BIBLE STUDY

January 5, 12, 19 and 26 @ 1pm In-person & virtual

A new study will begin in January. Come and join in the conversation led by Pastor Christie or just listen to the discussion that the scripture nurtures. There is a place for each of you at the tables arranged so the attendees can see one another. Each study begins with prayer requests and ends in prayer. More details will be coming in the bulletin and by email on the "Hope's Happenings." Please mark your calendar to attend!

SOME CHURCH HUMOR

Seven-year-old Timmy was staring up at the large plaque that hung in the foyer of the church one Sunday morning. It was covered with names and on each side was a small American flag. Noticing this, the pastor walked up and said, "Good morning, Timmy." Timmy's eyes never left the plaque. He said, "Good morning pastor. What is this?" The pastor replied, "Well, son, it's a memorial to all those young men and women who died in service." After several seconds of silence, Timmy turned and asked, "Which service, the 8:30 or the 11:00?"

Contributed by Dave McBride

The best parts in life are all the little ones added up.

The Cowboy Code

DON'T FORGET ALL OCCASION CARDS ARE FOUND ON THE NARTEX COUNTER FOR YOU TO SHARE! ALSO PRAYER SHAWLS ARE AVAILABLE TO THOSE WHO NEED THE COMFORT OF PRAYER.

JOYFUL JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

2	Bonnie Leonhardt	19. Alita Simpson
	Regina Wendel	22 Mary Beth Taylor
3	Cooper Krieg	25 Steve Hamilton
4	Jacob Darnell	26 Debbie Schrader
8	Samantha Burkhart	27 Kyla Darnell
10	Connie Terbrueggen	30 Kurt Glardon
11	Erika Leppert	, CO
	Joseph Sheppard	
14	Pat Hester	
17	Paula Lundy	
	Cora Leppert	JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

WHOO (WOMEN HELPING OTHERS & OURSELVES)

At the WHOO Christmas Gathering on December 7th



there was such a variety of wonderful food to compliment the delicious ham prepared by Kathy Mushaben. 13 women shared laughter and played a Christmas memory game under the leadership of Lana Albright. It was a such hers and Ourselve relaxing evening of fun!

The next meeting is planned for January 26th. Always bring yourself a light meal. More details will be coming as the date nears.

SON MINISTRIES REPORT

During November SON's food pantry distributed food and personal care items



to 163 families that included 168 children and 366 adults for a total of 534 persons.

Note these totals! There were 461 Thanksgiving boxes distributed to 248 families. For Christmas, SON passed out 530 boxes to 280 families. The children involved totaled 672 children and the boxes give amounted to 991 boxes of food give to help the community. The children were also given hats, gloves, and underwear to keep them warm this winter.

SON will reopen on January 4.

Thank you to all who donate to this worthy community effort!

BROWN PAPER GROCERY BAGS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUR "BOOK NOOK"

Women, look over the books available for loan in the "Book Nook" located in the Fellowship Hall. There is still room on the shelves for any books you wish to donate. Take some time for yourself to read a book and relax!

BOOK DONATIONS FOR SIDE BY SIDE MINISTRIES

The Magic Schoolbus at Hope is still collecting new and

gently used books for children and middle schoolers which will be given to Side by Side Ministries. Their big brightly



decorated garbage container Is located at the entrance door awaiting your donations.

HOPE'S BOTTOM LINE

November 2022

General Fund



Total		MONTH		YTD		
Beginning Balance		19,325.77	\$	43,347.84		
Revenues		21,186.21	\$	166,172.17		
Expenses				183,140.68		
Transfers In		0.00		52.00		
Transfers Out	\$.	50.00	\$	2,217.58		
Ending Balance		24,263.75		24,263.75		
Memorial Fund						
Beginning Balance	\$	9,957.69	\$	7,789.41		
Transfers In	\$	50.00	\$	2,217.58		
Interest Income	\$.09	\$.79		
Transfers Out	\$	0.00	\$	0.00		
Total	\$	\$10,007.78		\$10,007.78		
Wilma Hoffman Fund						
Beginning Balance	\$	17,692.39	\$1	19,365.40		
Deposit	\$	0.00	\$	0.00		
Interest Income	\$	1.45	\$	15.44		
Disbursements		0.00	\$	1,687.00		
Ending Balance	\$ 17,693.84		\$17,693.84			
Mission Building Fund						
Beginning Balance	\$	14,384.96		14,373.95		
Revenue	\$		\$	0.00		
Interest Income	\$			12.20		
Disbursements	\$		\$			
Ending Balance	\$	14,386.15	\$	14,386.15		
Capital One CD						
Beginning Balance	\$	53,944.99	\$	52,642.22		
Deposit	\$		\$	0.00		
Interest Income	\$		\$	396.40		
Disbursements	\$		\$			
Ending Balance	\$	53,029.69	\$	53,029.69		

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

December 8th, 2022

At this very short council meeting in the home of President

Jen Byrne, the only business item was the council moving to add Joy Ivins to fill the Worship/Music Chair position on council for 2023-24. The slate of officers is complete for the congregation to vote on at the short Congregational Meeting on January 8th prior or the Generosity Session. The group then gathered to enjoy the snacks and fellowship for the evening. Many thanks to our hostess!

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you abound in hope.

Romans 15:13

Chris Arany, Treasurer

ouncil

JANUARY THANK YOU'S AND NEWS

- 1.--I would like to thank Eve McMasters and Pat Speeg helping set up the communion for the past year.
- 2.--I appreciate the help of the following members bringing down the containers with the Advent and Christmas decorations are Boaz, Ruthie, Rachel, Adam and Kara Williams.
- 3.--Thank you to Nan Davis for putting up and taking care of the pew candles during the Advent and Christmas services.
- 4.--Thank you to Jacob and Brian Byrne and Mike Schweinfest for putting up the Christmas Tree.
- 5.--Thank you to Jacob and Brian Byrne, Mike Schweinfest, Nan Davis, Boaz, Ruthie, Rachel, Kara, and Alex Williams with the task of decorating the Christmas Tree.
- 6.--Thank you to Chuck Hasdorff for taking care of the altar on December 11th while I was at my grandson Sam's college graduation.
- 7.—**Thank you to everyone** who partook in the wonderful Hanging of the Greens service.

Ruth Oehler, Altar Chair

Editor's Note: Our grateful thanks to Ruth who assembled persons to help with the services and always has our sanctuary dressed for each Sunday service..

Thank you to my Hope Family for the unexpected shower of cards and beautiful pink roses that were presented to me at church on Sunday, December 4th. Your prayers and encouragement are helping me to see God's healing hand in the midst of a busy time for all of us. Thank you also, to the many participants who made the Hanging of the Greens service a success! I was able to watch from my hospital room, and what a lift it was to see so many wonderful aspects of Advent appear seamlessly. Karen Schweinfest

Thank you to all who donated mittens, gloves and hats to decorate the Giving Tree or toys and gift cards to Nate's Toy Box. Both were projects to help the community celebrate Christmas.

Thank you to Carmen Hasdorff who diligently takes attendance for worship and sends out bulletins and Pastor's sermon to our shut-ins.

Thank you to Emma Shepherd, Zoey Beagle, and Jake Byrne for leading our dear children in the song "Light the Candle" as our Advent wreath was lit during services.

Thank you to the Fellowship Committee under the leadership of Karen Schweinfest for the light



brunch served after the Hanging of the Greens service.

A picture from the Hanging of the Greens Service are



below for those of you you were not present..

BAPTISM AT HOPE

On Sunday December 18 Raphael Zecarias Mehanzel was baptized by Rev. Paul Winterstein a retired



Hope gives thanks for this young baby and welcomes him and his family into the body of Christ and our church family!

MORE THANK YOU'S AND NOTES

Dear Hope Lutheran Church,

We want to thank you for your support of Nate's Toy Box this year by being a drop-off location. All of the items collected, donations and the number of

volunteers have demonstrated how so many can work together to extend a helping hand to the community, touch lives and help provide a happy, joyous Christmas for children in our area. The efforts by so many truly displays the gift of God's love.



This year you helped Nate's Toy Box provide a Christmas for 232 families and 663 children in the Northwest Local School District area. And the giving continues. Some of the remaining toys not distributed on our regular distribution days have been passed on to other social services in the area and the rest kept to support families year round identified by the school district,

This is the I7th year for Nate's Toy Box to honor our son, Nate, who was killed in an automobile accident in 2005. We believe that Nate is looking down and smiling at the good that has come out of the tragedy.

God has given us his direction and we thank you for being a part of it. We wish you and your family a blessed Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

Sincerely, Gary and Pam Schroeder Nate's Toy Box

Thank you to all who supported the collection of hats, gloves, etc. for the children of SON Ministries which were distributed with the Christmas food



boxes and for the donations to Meijer's "Simply Give" at Stonecreek Crossing. Your help is so appreciated to keep our food pantry well supplied to

help those in our community that need food and personal care items for their families.

Jo Dossenbach, SON Ministries, Director

A loving thank you to my Hope family who showed me such concern by prayers, cards, emails, texts and phone calls. Your caring lifted me up while I was in such misery! (Jerry was a wonderful help, too!). Thanks so much!

Joy Ivins

Greetings My Dear Hope Family,

I can't begin to express how much so many of you have done for me during my time at Hope. I have never felt and shared so much love and support from so many people.

I'm extremely appreciative for the prayer chain, which have apparently got connections! Thanks to the support. I received a positive outcome with some health issues. Who needs doctors! Thank you!

I'm also grateful for being remembered with the Stephen Ministry Program. I tried when I moved here to reach out to a Stephen Minister in my area and there are none around. I just needed to talk to someone about my move and family dynamics. There wasn't anyone that I could reach out to for that.

I've been to several churches in this area and none compare to Hope. I miss and love you all so much. Don't think this means I won't show up on your doorstep one of these days.

Your Forever Friend, Christa Russo

Editor's Note: This is an excerpt from her letter. The complete letter is on the church bulletin board.

MORE HUMOR FOR YOU

A minister patiently waited in line to get his gas tank filled at a station offering discounts prior to a long holiday weekend. Finally, an attendant



motioned to him to a vacant pump. "Reverend," the young man said, "Sorry about the delay, but it seems everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip." The minister smiled broadly to say, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

HOPE'S NURSERY IS OPEN Don't forget that



Kayla Terbrueggen is available during worship to care for Hope's youngest children if parents wish to take advantage of her services. It is a

safe place with toys and activity.

UPDATE ON PILL BOTTLE COLLECTION

Please make note that from now on only pill bottles without labels that are cleaned will be accepted for Matthew 25 collection.



HOPE DIRECTORY APP

FOR YOUR COMPUTER OR PHONE Directions are on



the church counter or check for Instant Church Directory.

*Changes are continuously made. New pictures are requested. If you have changed your email address, you will need to re-enroll. It will not recognize the new email address for confidentiality purposes.

SUPPORT US THROUGH

Please contact Jerry Ivins for any changes.

KROGER REWARDS PROGRAM

- 1. Visit KrogerCommunityRewards.com
- 2. Sign in to your online account, or create an account.
- 3. Find and select Hope Lutheran and rewards click "Enroll."

Hope's 5 digit number is 80286. Please join today!

BOX TOPS MADE EASY

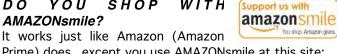
Box Tops to school. All you need is your phone. Download the ALL-NEW Box Tops app, shop as



NO MORE CLIPPING you normally would, then simply scan your store receipts to find participating products. The app will automatically credit your school's Box

Tops earnings online. Karen Schneider

DO YOU SHOP WITH



Prime) does...except you use AMAZONsmile at this site: www.smile.amazon.com Use this website to sign up now!

It will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Hope Lutheran Church. It is an easy way to help the funds to support our church. Hope collected \$34.21 last guarter.

YELLOW BRICK ROAD CHILD CARE



We are proud of Kayla Willey's 2 Star award rating for her child care facility!

Spots are available at 513-601-2596 or send an email to the address below:

yellowbrickroadchildcare@gmail.com

DON'T FORGET OUR NARTHEX BINS!

- -Used toothbrushes, empty toothpaste tubes and floss containers for UC Dental
- -Food and personal care donations for SON Ministries
- -Pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House
- -Religious materials for Love Packages
- -Boxtops for Education for schools
- -Lids and caps for Buddy benches

Pill bottles that are Cleaned and without labels

- -Eye glasses for the Lyon's Club
- -Clothing for Franciscan Sisters of the Poor

HOPE'S CONTRIBUTION INFORMATION

To donate to Hope: Checks may be mailed to 4695 Blue Rock Road, Cincinnati, OH 45247 or brought to church.



Digital donations may be submitted at www.hopeonbluerock.org Click on "Giving" and then click on "Online Giving" and choose how you wish to donate - either ChurchTrac or PayPal.

For questions email Ron Long at finance@hopeonbluerock.org

PRAYER CHAIN INSTRUCTIONS

To submit a prayer chain request: Complete this online form https:// www.hopeonbluerock.org/prayer-

requests, or send an email to praver@hopeonbluerock.org, or call Pastor Christie

317-828-5949 (cell) 513-923-3370 (church office)

Interested in receiving prayer chain emails? Email prayer@hopeonbluerock.org with your contact information and we will get you added to the list.

HOW TO JOIN ZOOM EVENTS

For the majority of our zoom meetings, the instructions for joining on zoom are the same. See



below for instructions, and contact Pastor Christie with questions or difficulties. In the occasional case that the zoom link is different, instructions will be noted with the event publicity.

To join virtually Join via zoom on computer or smart phone: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3178285949? pwd=YSs1QzNScVIMZzIkMkZpMTImVINLUT09

Call in via telephone: 1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 317 828 5949

Passcode: 4695

ARTICLES FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF THE HOPE HERALD ARE REQUESTED BY SUNDAY, JANUARY 22nd. ARTICLES MAY BE EMAILED TO joyceivins@icloud.com or anytime before that date.

TASTY CREATIONS

Make this yummy treat to remember what happened on each day of Creation.

What you need:

- 6 large pretzel rods
- Candy melts (white, chocolate and blue)
- Green sprinkles
- · White or star-shaped sprinkles
- · Fish crackers
- Animal crackers
- · Adult help



- With help, melt the three colors of candy melts in separate dishes. Microwave for 30 seconds at a time, stirring until soft.
- 2. Decorate one pretzel for each day of Creation:
 - Dip half in white and half in chocolate to show light and darkness.
 - Dip half in white and half in blue to show separation of the atmosphere.
 - Dip half in chocolate, add green sprinkles and dip half in blue to show land, plants and water.
 - Dip in chocolate and add white or star sprinkles to show the stars.
 - Dip in blue and add fish crackers to show sea life.
 - Dip in chocolate and add animal crackers to show land animals.
- 3. Share the Creation story and the snack with a friend!



Ordering the days

God spoke and created all that exists. He separated and ordered his creation. What did God say about all he made?

Directions: Write the correct day of creation next to each clue. Then fill in the circled letters in order below to complete Genesis 1:31, NIV.

FIRST SECOND THIRD FOURTH FIFTH SIXTH

God made wild animals and livestock.	0
God said, "Let there be light."	
God gathered the waters under the sky into one place.	_0
God made a vault to separate the waters and called it "sky."	
God created plants and trees.	
God separated the light from the darkness.	
God made the water teem with living creatures.	
God made the sun and moon.	Q
God made birds fly above the earth.	
God made stars.	
God created mankind in his own image.	
God awalltha he adma ean ti	ho ny avaew

Answer: sixth, first, third, second, third, first, fifth, fourth, fifth, fourth, sixth; God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

GENESIS 1:31, NIV



January 2023

December 2022 SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

S M T W T F S S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

January 2023

12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

February 2023

1 2 3 4

Hope Calendar						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday Thursday		Friday	Saturday
Pastor on vacation Hpapy New Year!	SON Ministries closed 5:00 PM Pastor's Office	= 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours = 6:00 PM Praise band	= 10:00 AM SON @ GUMC = 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours = 4:30 PM SON @ GUMC = 6:30 PM Generosity Team Meeting	5 = 1:00 PM Bible Study (virtual & in-person)	Pastor's Day Off	7
■ 10:00 AM Worship: In-Person & Livestream	hours					
8 10:00 AM Worship: In-Person & Livestream 11:00 AM Special Congregational Meeting 11:15 AM Generosity Project	9 = 10:00 AM SON @ GUMC = 5:00 PM Pastor's Office hours = 6:00 PM Praise band	= 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours	11 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours 10:00 AM SON @ GUMC 4:30 PM SON @ GUMC	12 1:00 PM Bible Study (virtual & in-person) 7:00 PM Council Meeting Zoom	Pastor's Day Off	14 = 12:00 PM Hall Rental - Jes- sica Hill
15 10:00 AM Worship: In-Person & Livestream 11:00 AM Confirmation Class	SON Ministries closed 5:00 PM Pastor's Office hours 6:00 PM Praise band	= 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours	= 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours = 10:00 AM SON @ GUMC = 4:30 PM SON @ GUMC	19 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours 1:00 PM Bible Study (virtual & in-person)	Pastor's Day Off	21
22		I .	25			28
CouncilInstallationDuringWorship 10:00 AM Worship: In-Person & Livestream	Pastor Attending Rostered Lea 10:00 AM SON @ GUMC 5:00 PM Pastor's Office hours 6:00 PM Praise band		■ 10:00 AM SON @ GUMC ■ 4:30 PM SON @ GUMC	10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours 1:00 PM Bible Study (virtual & in-person) 6:00 PM WHOO Women	Pastor's Day Off	
29 10:00 AM Worship: In-Person & Livestream 11:00 AM Annual Congregational Meeting	30 10:00 AM SON @ GUMC 5:00 PM Pastor's Office hours 6:00 PM Praise band	= 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours	= 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours = 10:00 AM SON @ GUMC = 4:30 PM SON @ GUMC	2 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours 1:00 PM Bible Study (virtual & in-person)	Pastor's Day Off	4

The Hope Herald
Hope Lutheran Church
Pastor Christie Beckmann
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office@hopeonbluerock.org
www.hopeonbluerock.org



OUR MISSION

We are anchored in faith and saved by God's grace. Led by the Holy Spirit, it is our purpose to invite all to know hope, love, and peace through Jesus Christ.



Pastor: Christie Beckmann Choir Director: Karen Schweinfest

Organist: Dale Renner
Altar Care: Ruth Oehler
Prayer Chain: Carmen Hasdorff
Web Site: Pastor Christie
Jerry Ivins

Facebook: Mary Bryant Kitchen Manager Karen Schneider

HOPE HERALD STAFF:

Worship Assistants: Nan Davis

Jerry Ivins Ruth Oehler Joy Ivins

Editor: Joy Ivins Clip Art: Jerry Ivins

