



HOPE *happenings*

VOLUME 47
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DECEMBER 2019

“Whatever is in the Cards, Merry Christmas ”

A Reflection from Pastor Shawn

My house looks like an episode of hoarders at the moment. Earlier in November we cleared out our attic in order to turn the center of the space into a spare room for company. From the entrance of the room, down the hallway, into the bedrooms, down the stairs, throughout the living space, and into the garage, the previous contents of the attic are stacked up everywhere. Old chairs and filing cabinets. Tubs of unused decorations and my high school sport trophies. Future hand-me-down clothes for the children and boxes full of photo albums. Piles everywhere.

The room will not be carpeted and finished until December 18—just in time for Christmas. Looking on the bright side, that gives us plenty of time to decide exactly what will go back into the attic space and what needs to go to make room. Looking on the realistic side, that means we still have 3+ weeks of clutter and chaos—all leading up to Christmas.

I wish my house were going to be perfectly decorated every day of December, but this year that is just not in the cards. Sometimes it is not.

There’s great expectation and pressure that can accompany the holidays. We want our homes to be decorated perfectly. We hope for tables full of dishes cooked to perfection that all come out together at exactly the right time. We want our family members to behave harmoniously. We want fresh white snow covering everything (but not too much snow and recently enough that it is still white and not brown from the road. And we want that light stuff—not the heavy snow that’s tough to shovel.

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Preschool Teachers:
**Julie Tingue, Julie Weixlmann
& Timi Pawelski**

WORSHIP NOTES

Sunday Worship

Sunday, December 1—
First Sunday of Advent
Services at 8:30am & 10:30am

Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5

Romans: 13:11-14

Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

Sunday, December 8—
Second Sunday of Advent
Services at 8:30am & 10:30am

Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10

Romans: 15:4-13

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Sunday, December 15—
3rd Sunday of Advent
Services at 8:30am & 10:30am

Readings: Isaiah 35:1-10

James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Sunday, December 22—
4th Sunday of Advent
One Service at 10am

Youth Christmas Play

Sunday, December 29—
Frist Sunday of Christmas
One Service at 10am

Readings: Isaiah 63:7-9 &

Hebrews 2:10-18

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

Weekday Worship

Wednesday, December 4—
11am Community Worship
& Luncheon

7pm Holden Prayer Service

Wednesday, December 11—
11am Community Worship
& Luncheon

7pm Holden Prayer Service

Wednesday, December 18—
11am Community Worship
& Luncheon

7pm Holden Prayer Service

Tuesday, December 24—
Christmas Eve
Services at 4:30pm & 10pm



Whatever is in the Cards, Merry Christmas ...cont.

And we want it to be just cold enough for that snow to exist, but not so cold it hurts to breathe. Did I miss anything?). We want all of our family members to come home, and we want everyone to be happy.

But some years, that is just not in the cards. Some years illness strikes. Others it's turkeys that didn't thaw correctly and end up getting everyone sick. Still other years the political unrest in the country works its way into dinner conversation. Some years we get more snow than we were hoping for. Some years our loved ones are celebrating with their loved one's loved ones. Some years finances limit the number of presents under the tree. Some years Christmas feels more blue than white.

If this ends up being one of those years for you, remember Mary and Joseph were hoping for a hotel room and ended up in a stable but Christmas came nonetheless. In fact, Christmas is not less meaningful when it fails to meet the Hallmark standard, but the true meaning manages to come through even more.

All we need to celebrate Christmas is one simple hope: that God is with us. I hope your Advent season of preparation and your Christmas celebration of light are blessed. I pray you are surrounded by your loved ones and by the love of our God who breaks into lives in the most unexpected fashion. I hope your person, your home, and our world is full of peace. But even if it is not, I pray that you experience God working within and through you this Christmas season. Whatever is in the cards, Merry Christmas.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'BS'.

IN OUR PRAYERS:

We pray for Matthew Nourse, Curt Emery, Ben, Dave Carr, Paul Sanders, Betty Offhaus, Traci, Joan Taylor, Roger Day, Matt Weaver, Mary Ann, Jerry Webster, Mary Dell, Katie Offhaus,, Sue Adams and family, Sandy Harris, Doug Lavery, Carrie Ruffin, Suzanne & Otto Struckman, Gary Beiersdorf, Rev. John Fehringer, Ken Babbitt, Catherine, Jay May, Ed Cole, Theresa Swift, Betsey Koerner, Don Tober, Sandy Semans, John Harter, David Niver, Betty Howard, Ryley Green, Noah Brown, Roxanne, Ally Conrad, Joe Strobele, Jr., Becky, Peter Hartel, Joe Strobele, Sr. Erin Hammell, Mary Field, Andy Reding, Rick Lewis, Lloyd Neamon and Randy Cady.



We also pray for all those who are struggling with drug and alcohol addictions and also pray for the victims of all forms of abuse. We continue to keep our Servicemen and women, who are serving at home and overseas, in our prayers.

EVENTS at a GLANCE

- December 1:** **1st Sunday of Advent**
Sunday Services: 8:30am & 10:30am
Confirmation: 5-7pm
- December 2:** Church Council: 6pm (*Please note earlier time than usual*)
Ale House Church: 7pm
- December 3:** Quilting: 10am-2pm
Youth Group: 6:30-8pm
- December 4:** Community Advent Service & Luncheon: 11am
Holden Evening Prayer: 7pm
- December 8:** **2nd Sunday of Advent**
Sunday Services: 8:30am & 10:30am
Christmas Play Practice: 9:30am
Youth Gift Wrapping Fundraiser: 9:30am
- December 9:** Fresh Evergreen Christmas Wreath Making: 6:30pm
- December 10:** Quilting: 10am-2pm
Youth Group: 6:30-8pm
- December 11:** Community Advent Service & Luncheon: 11am
Holden Evening Prayer: 7pm
- December 12:** Hope Respite: 10:30am
Book Club #1: 6:30pm at Michelle Bergmann's Home
- December 13:** Hope Preschool Christmas Program: 11:30am
- December 15:** **3rd Sunday of Advent**
Sunday Services: 8:30am & 10:30am
Baptism of Maverick Kossow at 10:30am service
Christmas Play Practice: 9:30am
Youth Gift Wrapping Fundraiser: 9:30am
Beer & Carols at Turkey Run Golf Course: 4pm
- December 17:** Quilting: 10am-2pm
Youth Group Christmas Party: 6:30pm
- December 18:** Community Advent Service & Luncheon: 11am
Committee Coffee House: 6:30pm
Holden Evening Prayer: 7pm
- December 19:** Book Club #2 at Carol Boldt's Home: 7pm
- December 21:** Youth Christmas Play Practice: 9am
Family Gingerbread Making Fun: 11am
- December 22:** **4th Sunday of Advent**
One Service: 10am
Youth Christmas Play
- December 24:** **Christmas Eve**
Services at 4:30pm & 10pm
No Youth Group
- December 29:** **One Sunday Service: 10am**
- December 31:** Brick Order Forms Due for A Future with Hope Ministry & Community Center



ADULTS

Evergreen Making Class

Christmas Wreath or Mantle Piece

Let's get in the holiday decorating spirit. Grab a friend, bring a treat or beverage to share and join us to make either a Wreath or Mantle Piece with real evergreens. Creative instructors Fran Senko and Piper Malik (one of our Preschool Families) will provide step-by-step directions and supplies during the two hour class. The cost is \$25 and RSVPs are required. The class will be **Monday, December 9 at 6:30pm at Hope**. Please email Julie Tingue (Julie@hopearcade.org) or sign-up on the bulletin board if you would like to attend.



YOUTH

Youth Group

Middle & High Schoolers are invited to Youth Group Tuesdays, December 3, 10, & 17. Please note there is no Youth Group on December 24 & 31. Please bring a few dollars for pizza and a friend. The YG Christmas Party will be on December 17!

Confirmation

Confirmation this month will be held on December 1 from 5-7pm for 7th-9th graders.



Youth Christmas Play

All aged children are invited to play a role in Hope's Christmas Play, "The Loaned Manager." Practices will take place December 8 & 15 between Sunday services and Saturday, December 21 at 9am.

Gingerbread Making Fun for all Ages!

Immediately following Christmas Play Practice on **Saturday, December 21 (around 11am)**, we will listen to Christmas music and make Gingerbread people and houses. All you need to bring is a bag of candy to share to decorate. Sign-Up on the bulletin board.





HOPE PRESCHOOL



We had a fun November at Hope Preschool. Our class learned about Pets, Veterinarians, Turkeys and Thanksgiving. Many students were able to bring in their family pets which included– a baby goat, kittens, guinea pigs, a calf, a turtle, a bunny, dogs and geckos! In our pretend center the students pretended to be pet owners, groomers and veterinarians of many stuffed animals– giving exams, checking out x-rays, applying bandages and more!

We enjoyed a visit from Dr. Jeff Tingué of 3J Vet Clinic in Machias who showed the students how to perform exams on pets and talked about the many jobs of a veterinarian. We also welcomed Amy Thomson with her dog Maggie to learn the importance of petting dogs safely. Deb Wood joined us for Jesus time this month using Godly Play to teach the story of creation which was a big hit!

On November 22, the students hosted their families for a Stone Soup Luncheon. Over 70 family members joined us for a performance and soup prepared by the students.

Wishlist Item of the Month: Silk Scarves



Thanks be to God!

Our thanks to the people serving on Hope's committees and council whose term of service will come to an end this year.



*Mary Songster– Alpin
Paul Fehringer
Mike Sonner Sr
Kathy LaScala
Sandi Bennett
JD Struckmann
Sue Dressel
Brenda Schmidt
John Kossow
Dale Deahn
Missy Peace*

OPPORTUNITIES

TO SERVE:

Sprouting Hope Teachers: We are looking for adult leaders to serve our 10:30am Sprouting Hope Faith Formation Ministry to our littlest Hopesters for the coming months. The curriculum is provided in advance and involves teaching lessons and leading activities for children ages 2-4th grade.

Home Communion Outreach: We are starting a new ministry at Hope that will allow our brothers and sisters at Hope to serve communion to shut-in members of our congregation. If you would be interested in this ministry, please sign-up on the bulletin board. This will start in January.

TO GIVE:

OUR GIVING TREE: Our Outreach Committee has put together a giving tree to bring a little extra cheer to those in our community. Tags on the tree describe a present for an adult or child with disabilities in the greater Pioneer community. Please take a tag and go shopping. After wrapping it, please bring the gift back and place it under the tree by Sunday, December 15. Thank you for living generously this Christmas!



YOUTH GIFT WRAPPING FUNDRAISER: On Sunday mornings, December 8 & 15, our youth will be available to wrap gifts for church members. A donation is requested and all funds will go towards the youth fund.

GIVING TUESDAY: Giving Tuesday is December 3. Consider making a reoccurring or one time donation to one of the ministries at Hope: **General Fund, A Future with Hope, Hope Youth, Hope Outreach, Hope Preschool or Hope Respite!** To make a donation online click [HERE](#). Donations can also be made in Sunday's offerings by noting on your check memo where you would like your donation designated.



General Fund



A Future with Hope



Hope Youth



Hope Outreach



Hope Preschool



Hope Respite

BuffaLUTHERAN CHRISTMAS GLASSES: These NEW limited edition Christmas glasses will make great gifts for the Lutherans you love this Christmas. Purchase one for \$7 or two for \$12. Your donation includes a direct donation to A Future with Hope!

BEER & CAROLS @ TURKEY RUN: On Sunday, December 15 from 5-7 we will be taking over the Club House at Turkey Run with fellowship and cheer. We will be singing Christmas Carols led by musicians from Hope. Tickets are limited and available at \$10/adult, \$25/family. All the proceeds benefit A Future with Hope. Visit the church office to get your tickets.

POINSETTIAS: Purchase a poinsettia to decorate our worship space this Christmas in memory of or in honor of a loved one. Order forms are located on the table by the door and are due by December 15.

Brick Campaign: We invite church families, local businesses, ministry partners and community members to support our Ministry and Community Center through the purchase of an engraved personalized brick to be used on the entry wall of the new building. Consider this donation a **FOREVER TRIBUTE** or a **PERMANENT ADVERTISEMENT**. Visit our website [HERE](#) to order online or pick up an order form in the social hall. The deadline for orders is December 31.



HOPE *happenings*



▲ Over \$2,000 was raised for the Youth Fund at the Annual Turkey Dinner & Apple Pie Fundraiser. Thank you for your donations, sponsorship and time!

▼ Amy Thomson and Deb Wood share their God given talents with Hope Preschoolers.



▼ Hope Respite this month revolved around all things Turkeys! Turkey crafts, games and exercise!



HOPE

happenings



Hope youth had a fun and busy month...

- * They spent an evening at Get Air Trampoline Park and had dinner at Chic-Fil-A!
- * Made 75 pies and had a lock-in!
- * Prepared and served tacos at the WNY Ronald McDonald House!
- * Prepared a Thanksgiving feast and enjoyed it with one another!



CELEBRATIONS

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 5- LAUREN PLEACE | 21- PETER BOLDT |
| 7- ALANA HAMMELL | 23- MARSHA NORTH |
| 8- DAKOTA COCKLE | 24- ALFRED BOLDT |
| 8- MCKENNA KRIST | 26- EMMA BERGMANN |
| 11- JENNIFER SANDERS | 27- DENNIS SANDERS |
| 11- ZACHARY WIEDEMANN | 30- NOLAN SCHWAB |
| 17- SHELLEY FLEISCHMAN | 31- SYDNEY SCHROCK |
| 19- HELENA BLACKWELL | |

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 2- PETE & KIM BOLDT
12- JOHN & GAYLA KOSSOW
17- DICK & CAROL SCHASEL



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESENTS

BEER & CAROLS

Sunday, December 15 / 5-7pm

Adults: \$10 / Families: \$25

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT A FUTURE WITH HOPE

AT THE CLUB HOUSE AT TURKEY RUN

11836 BIXBY HILL RD, ARCADE, NY 14009

SUGGESTED RESTAURANT MINIMUM: 2 DRINKS OR 1 FOOD ITEM



SERVING IN WORSHIP

	December 1	December 8	December 15	December 22	December 29
Sunday Steward: 8:30 am	Paul Fehringer	Cora Blackwell	Angie Tavernier	Youth Christmas Play: One Service 10am	One Service—10am - - - v
Greeters: 8:30am	Bev Hallock	Dennis & Cindy Gaston	Betsey Craft		
AV Tech: 8:30 am	Cora Blackwell	Jim Alpin	Jacob & Ernie		
Acolyte: 8:30 am	Grace Tavernier	Garrett Milks	McKenna Krist		
Assisting Minister: 8:30 am	Margie Webster	Joanne Offers	Mary Songster-Alpin		
Children's Church: 8:30am	Anna Tavernier	Amy Thomson	Anna Tavernier		
Lector: 8:30am	Monica Reding	Janet Campana	Brian Tavernier		
Prayers: 8:30 am	Jenni Smith	Ashley Bartz	Mike Sonner		
Ushers: 8:30am	Marcy & Maddie Sonner	Terry Reding Jason Gerhard	Tracey Wood		
HC Assistants: 8:30am	Kristin Bley Barb Sonner Jen Blackwell Jim Alpin	Megan Titus Ernest Floyd Tyler Bley Kara Boldt	Missy Pleace Amy Thomson Joanne Offers Cora Blackwell		
Sunday Steward: 10:30 am	Sue Dressel	Bob Vossler	Carol Boldt	Margie Rung	
Greeters: 10:30 am	Margie Rung	Sandy Ashworth	Brenda Schmidt	Kathy LaScala	
AV Tech: 10:30 am	Stephen Struckmann	Cindy Struckmann	Carol Staffehl	Cindy Struckmann	
Acolyte: 10:30 am	Gavin Hammell	Kristofer Burfield	Kole Hammell	Cody Smith	
Assisting Minister: 10:30 am	Bob Vossler	Sue Dressel	Sue Farris	Stephen Struckmann	
Children's Church: 10:30 am	Julie Tingué			Anna Tavernier	
Lector: 10:30 am	Kim Offers	Sharlene Vossler	Kim Offers	Jodie Buchhardt	
Prayers: 10:30 am	Paul Rigerman	Sue Farris	Al Boldt	Sandi Bennett	
Ushers: 10:30 am	Kathy LaScala Margie Rung	Al Boldt Len Dressel	Bob & Jodie Buchhardt	Joanne & Kim Offers	
HC Assistants: 10:30 am	Ruth Zimmerman Sue Dressel Jodie Buchhardt Sandi Bennett	Carol Boldt Ellen McCarthy Brenda Schmidt Payeton Burfield	Bob Vossler Stephen Struckmann Kathy LaScala Rachel Kittleson	Sharlene Vossler Sue Farris Carol Staffehl Jenni Smith	
Altar Guilds:	Tracey Wood Ellen McCarthy	Carol Boldt Margie Rung	Diane Gibbs Cindy Struckmann	Barb Sonner Carol Boldt	Tracey Wood Barb Sonner
Coffee Hour:	Missy Pleace	Sharlene Vossler	Marilyn Piridy	Ellen McCarthy	Carol Boldt
Counters:	Scott Bley	Mike Sonner	Joanne Offers Kelly Frazier	John Kos-sow	Rachel & Jamie Kittleson

This newsletter was prepared especially for:

Address Service Requested

Arcade, New York

2 East Main Street

HOPE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Christmas Worship at Hope

Sundays, December 1, 8, & 15: 8:30am & 10:30am

Wednesdays, December 4, 11 & 18: 11am & 7pm

Sundays, December 22 & 29: 10am only

Christmas Eve: 4:30pm & 10pm



In everything there is hope.