

The Messenger



2020



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
1901 MIDDLEBOROUGH RD, ESSEX MD 21221

Eternal God, amid all the turmoil
and changes of the world your love
is steadfast and your strength never
fails. In this time of anxiety, be to us
a rock of defense. Comfort those in
distress, and grant us hope to face
the future; through Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord, Amen

Adapted from ELW, p. 76





Beloved, all:

You are much on my heart and mind these days. I am amazed by the creative ways you are caring for one another – and proud of the ways you are showing up and being church together and this world that God so loves. Let me say up front, I love you and I am praying for you.

It has been well said, over and over again, these are unprecedented times. And, friends, it looks as though it is going to get worse before it gets better. The Roman Catholic Church in Rockville Center (NY) has just shared that there is no possible way for the church to gather in-person for Holy Week and Easter. My Episcopal colleague in Washington, DC has recently broken the hard news that in-person liturgies are suspended through May 16. Kansas has called off school for the rest of the academic year. The Governors of Delaware and Maryland have initiated strict public gathering restrictions. The White House has called on the National Guard to assist in keeping gatherings to less than 10 people. Social distancing keeps us at least six feet apart. In the last week, I've spent more time in my home – and on my computer – than I have in a month!

On the other hand, I have also seen signs of tremendous hope. I have seen churches rally to care for one another – and the neighbor. Teachers, resiliently, have created learning materials and offered online resources. Those compelled to be out and about are being intentional about doing for those who are compelled to shelter in place. In my own sense of isolation, I have been nourished by online community, corporate prayer, thoughtful preaching, challenging questions and the blessing of watching us find new ways to accompany our communities. I have shed more than one tear out of gratitude, relief, and thanksgiving. Yes! We are church even when we don't gather in church buildings....

In 20 years of ordained ministry, I have never cancelled Sunday worship. Despite blizzard or hurricane, I have always made it to the altar and, by God's grace, I was never alone – others always came. This is such a different circumstance, and the fast from in-person community and holy communion is gnawing on my soul. The thought of missing Holy Week and Easter in-person worship is depressing and distressing!

Still, God's grace is amazing – and I am being surprised by how your partnership, prayer, support and creativity is nourishing in new and unexpected ways. Thank you, dear ones; and thanks be to God for Jesus Christ, in us, with us and incarnate through us.

With my love and prayers,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Gohl".

William (Bill) Gohl, Jr., Bishop
Delaware-Maryland Synod, ELCA



Please join us on Sundays
at 10:00 a.m. for
ONLINE Worship!

It will be available on our Facebook page and our YouTube account.

Facebook: @hopemiddleborough

YouTube: Hope Middleborough

Looking forward to worship with you all on Sundays!

Please stay informed, watch for announcements and messages in email form and/or on our social media accounts. If you know someone who is not online, please reach out to them with the announcements, and let Pastor Meheret know who you are reaching out to! We will mail hard copies of the Worship Bulletins, emails, sermons, etc to those who doesn't have online access.

Please, check in with your friends and faith family to keep in contact as a way of caring for one another, especially for those you know live alone. Also, please keep communication open with Pastor Meheret. Let us know who you are reaching out to.

Bible Study and Small Groups

At Hope Church we take seriously the Great Commission of the Risen Jesus to "go, make disciples of all nations... teaching them..." We offer a variety of opportunities for people of all ages to deepen their faith through small group Bible study.

To register, call 410-686-7587 or email hopelsecretary@outlook.com.

Monday Morning Pastor's Class: Meets Mondays 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM. We are currently studying "A Discipleship Guide for Lutherans" and planning to meet over Phone Conference. All are welcome!

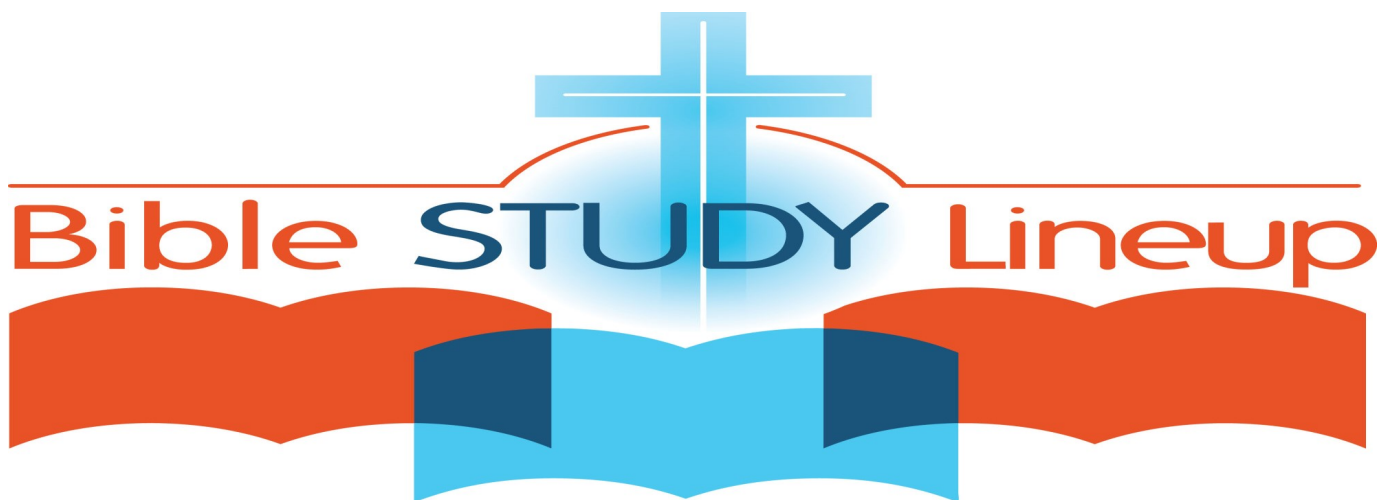
Wednesday Night Bible Study: Meets 7 PM—8:30 PM via Zoom video or phone conference. Currently studying a Bible Study resource provided by Gather Magazine on "Called to Serve." All are welcome!

Saturday Morning Breakfast Bible Study: Zoom video and audio conference on Saturdays at 9:00 AM. We are currently studying "Justice & The Prophets," Bible Study Book provided by Augsburg Adult Bible Studies. Please join us!

****If you would like information about these Bible Studies and Zoom, please let Pastor Meheret know and she will forward you the links!*

Bethel Series Bible Study: Is a two-year visually based overview of the central message of the Old and New Testaments. We are looking for people to form a new first year Old Testament group. Please contact Ellen Gollhardt (elgollhardt@gmail.com) or the church office if you are interested. You won't want to miss this wonderful opportunity to grow deeply in God's Word!

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YOUR POWERFUL *Prayers*

Edgar Amos, Jr.	Lois Lorene	Loretta Karen Holzopfel	Francesca Prado
Louise Amoss	Freddie Ditmar	Timothy Hostetler	Mike Porter
Connie Baker	Gloria Eckles	Scott Hower	Inez Rasinski
Johnny Banack	Lois Farber	Leondra Jefferson	Cass Rayman
Dennis Berry	Cassandra Fleckenstein	Michael McCoy	Cliff Rodney
Gail Berry	Bobbi Floyd	Ellen McKenna	Lucille Rose
Mary Bodenschatz	Matthew Floyd	Brian Miller	Eddie Sabol's Family
Debbie Bryant	Marina Ford	Jim Nemec	& Friends
Debbie Button	Sara Garrett & Family	Laurie Nemec	Jeff Sanders
Margaret Cain	Pierre Gibbons	Frank Neukam	Connie Sanders
Blanche Cardarelli	Cassidy Gore	Hannah Noack	Jeanine Schenning
Sharyl Clark	Daniel Hanke	Harvey Nockowitz's	Barbara Shelly
Shirley Cosgrove	Sharon Harris	Family & Friends	Kevin Shields
Ed Cornelius	Juliana Hasson	Terry Novak	Vivian Smith
Beulah Craig	Beverly Hoffman	Rick O'Dea	John Stiemly
Patrick J. Curran	Karen Hoffman	Pat Owens	Lucille Watson

Our Congregation, All First Responders and all active and reserve members of our armed forces.

******Please notify our church office if you want to add or remove any names from the Prayer List.***

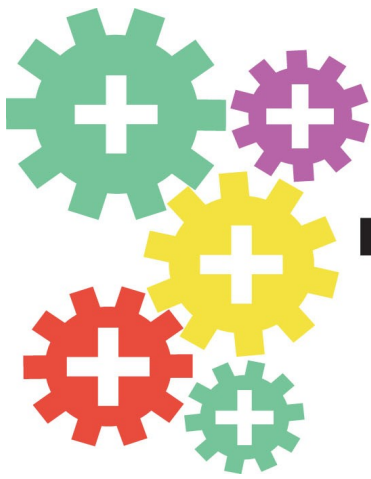
Worship Themes for April 2020

Date/Day	Scripture texts	Theme
April 5 Palm Sunday	Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 26:14—27:66	The servant of the Lord submits to suffering Into your hands , O Lord, I commend my spirit. Humbled to the point of death on a cross. The passion of the Lord
April 10 Good Friday	Isaiah 52:13—53:12 Psalm 22 Hebrews 10:16-25 John 18:1—19:42	The suffering servant My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? The way to God is opened by Jesus' death The passion and death of Christ
April 11 Easter Vigil	Daniel 3:1-29 Song of the Three 35-65 Romans 6:3-11 John 20:1-18	Deliverance from the fiery furnace Praise and magnify the Lord forever Dying and rising with Christ Seeing the risen Christ
April 12 Easter Sunday	Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2,14-24 Colossians 3:1-4 Matthew 28:1-10	God raised Jesus on the third day This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Raised with Christ to seek the higher things Proclaim the resurrection
April 19	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31	Christ resurrection: the fulfillment of God's promise to David In your presence there is fullness of joy New birth to a living hope through the resurrection Beholding the wounds of the risen Christ
April 26	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35	Receiving God's promise through baptism I will call on the name of the Lord. Born anew through the living word of God Eating with the risen Christ



Helping our neighbors, families and friends!



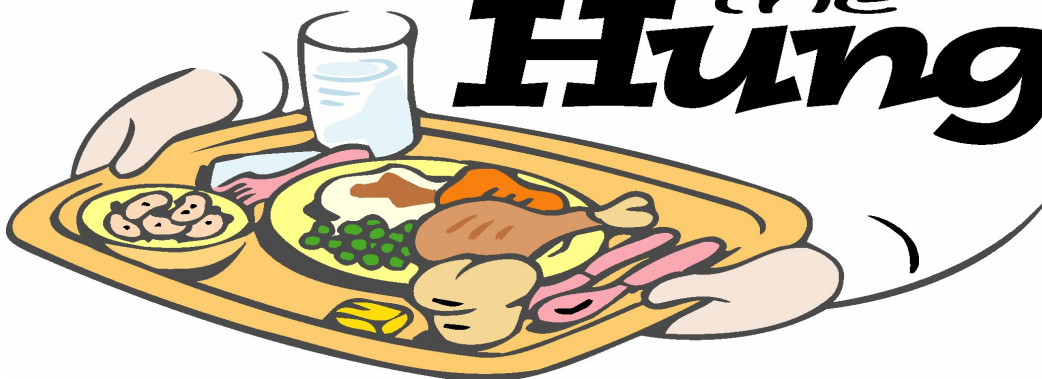


TEAMWORK





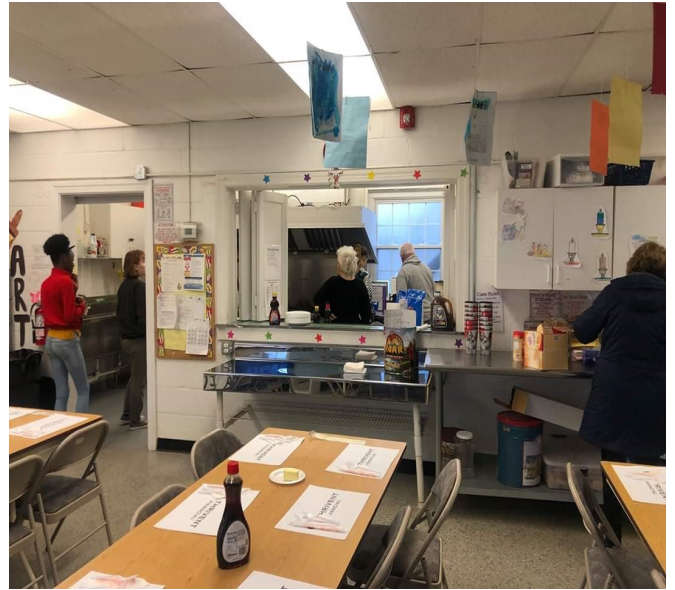
**Feeding
the
Hungry**

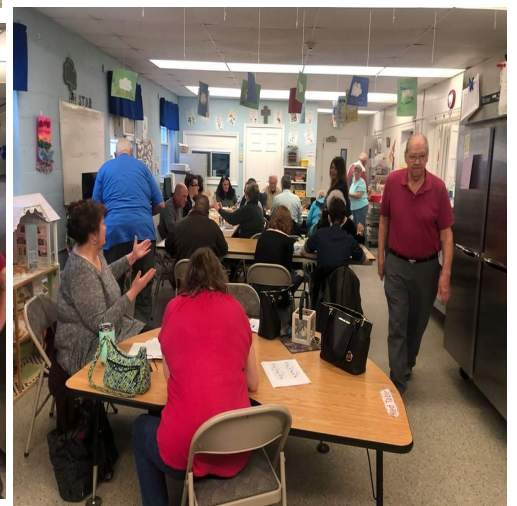
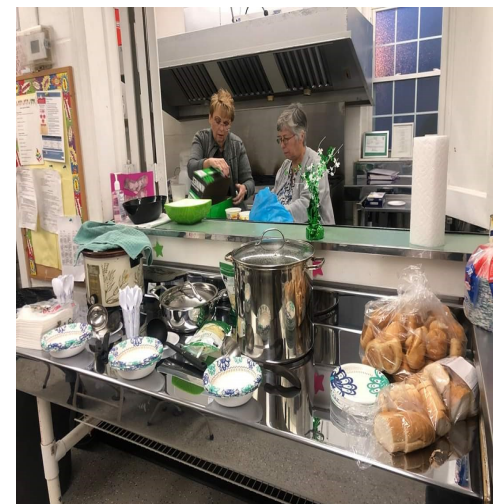
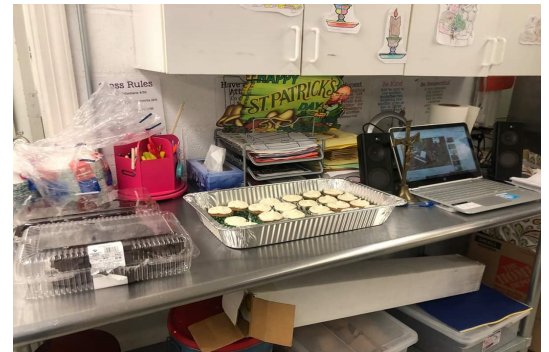


Middleborough Community Meeting
The First Monday of Each Month
@ 7 PM in the Lower Level of
the Christian Education Building
(Temporarily suspended due to
COVID-19)



SHROVE TUESDAY







All Stars Christian Learning Center

Now enrolling for Summer 2020

Our 11 week program begins June 22 and ends September 4.

Contact Talesha Johnson, our Director, at 410-686-6060 or email allstarscenter@yahoo.com

for the registration form.

Weekly tuition is based on the number of days the child will be attending:

5 days \$185

4 days \$155

3 days \$125

2 days \$85

1 day \$50



Spring Is Here At Hope Church!

“God Is Good All The Time”





HOPE'S QUILTERS are inviting people to join them. They meet every Monday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Choir Room. If you have any questions, see Sue Alexander or Bobbi Floyd.
"God's work. Our hands."





Birthdays of the Month

April

01	Kim Teter
04	Brian Frueh
05	Brooklynn Hays
05	Connie Baker
06	Jackie Eversley
08	Katlyn Smith
09	Susan Yelton
11	Mike Haught
11	Lisa Crout
11	Margo Crout
12	Keith Pickett
16	Frank Comotto, Jr.
17	Cary Koons
23	Beth Haught
23	Doris Salvo
26	Deloris Phillips



Happy Birthday To You

Please contact the office if you would like to add or remove your name from our birthday list. Thank you!

Duty Schedule for: April 2020

9:00	April 5 Palm Sunday	April 12 Easter 8:30	April 19	April 26
Assist	Bob Schweitzer	Colan Kahl	Joan Schweitzer	San Dee Koons
Lector	Bob Schweitzer	Eric Carl	Joan Schweitzer	Cary Koons
Server	Patty Horney	Carol Ogle	Thea Melton	Brandi Miner
Usher/Greeter	Rick Calo Sue Alexander	Jess Kahl Thea Melton	Eric Eszes Carol Ogle	Frank Schmidt Carol Ogle
10:30			10:30	
Assist	Robin Palmer	John Kelly	Lori Comotto	Lynda Frueh
Lector	Debbie Cannon	John Kelly	Sharyn Kahl	Brian Frueh
Server	Sandy Cincinnati	Donna Smith	Denise McLaughlin	Peggy Talbott
Usher/Greeter	Denise McLaughlin	Jeanne Faust Eric Eszes	Sandy Cincinnati Trish Hays	Linda Moler Mary Emge
Children Church	Ruth Kraeger	Lynne Lake	Marge Carl	Carolee Calo
KBZ	Carolee Calo	Brandi Miner	Lynda Frueh	Denise McLaughlin
Altar Set Up	Joan and Bob Schweitzer	Colan Kahl	Thea Melton	San Dee and Cary Koons
Counters	Bob Schweitzer Trudy Grauer	Colan Kahl Jeanne Faust	Linda Moler Deloris Phillips	Bob Schweitzer Steve/Sharyn Kahl

Holy Week:

Thursday, April 9 7:00 pm	Friday, April 10 7:00 pm	Saturday, April 11 7:00 pm
Maundy Thursday Service Assist: Bob Schweitzer Lector: Bob Schweitzer Serve: Carol Ogle Usher/Greet: TBD	Good Friday Service Assist: Colan Kahl Lector: Colan Kahl Usher/Greet: TBD	Easter Vigil Assist: Joan Schweitzer Lector: Joan Schweitzer Serve: Bob Schweitzer Usher/Greet: TBD

APRIL 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:00 PM Lenten Supper 7:00 PM Lenten Bible Study 7:00 PM Streets of Hope	2 7:00 PM Choir Practice	3	4 8:00 AM Breakfast Bible Discussion at Alice's Restaurant
5 9:00 AM Traditional Communion 10:30 AM Family Contemporary Communion 10:30 AM Kidz Bible Zone	6 9:00 AM Quilters 10:00 AM Bible Study	7	8 7:00 PM Bible Study	9	10	11 8:00 AM Breakfast Bible Discussion at Alice's Restaurant
12 9:00 AM Traditional Communion 10:30 AM Family Contemporary Communion 10:30 AM Kidz Bible Zone	13 9:00 AM Quilters 10:00 AM Bible Study	14 6:30 PM Learning Center Board Meeting	15 7:00 PM Bible Study	16 7:00 PM Choir Practice	17	18 8:00 AM Breakfast Bible Discussion at Alice's Restaurant
19 9:00 AM Traditional Communion 10:30 AM Family Contemporary Communion 10:30 AM Kidz Bible Zone	20 9:00 AM Quilters 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting	21	22 7:00 PM Bible Study	23 7:00 PM Choir Practice	24	25 8:00 AM Breakfast Bible Discussion at Alice's Restaurant
26 9:00 AM Traditional Communion 10:30 AM Family Contemporary Communion 10:30 AM Kidz Bible Zone 11:30 AM Youth Group Meeting	27 9:00 AM Quilters 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM Council Meeting	28	29 7:00 PM Bible Study	30 7:00 PM Choir Practice	1	2 8:00 AM Breakfast Bible Discussion at Alice's Restaurant



Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church

Our Staff

1901 Middleborough Rd. Baltimore, MD 21221

Pastor **Meheret Caruthers** • Office 410-686-7587 • Cell 240-413-7515

E-Mail: pastorm@hopeelca.org

Music Director: **Colin Eversley** • Cell 410-499-2291

E-Mail: craeversley11@hotmail.com

Secretary: **Shirley Edmonston** • Office 410-686-7587

E-Mail: hopesecretary@outlook.com

Council President: **Colan Kahl** • Home 410-292-2544

Council VP: **Bob Schweitzer** • Home 443-844-0065

Council Secretary: **Lynda Frueh** • Home 443-465-4275

Treasurer: **John Kelly** • Cell 443-770-0127

Jack Crout	Youth
Nicole Eck	443-271-4014
Trish Hays	410-687-3411
Sharyn Kahl	410-925-2784
San Dee Koons	443-421-4477
Lynne Lake	443-854-0708, Youth Leader
Denise McLaughlin	410-686-0199



**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

**Articles for the May
Messenger are due by
Monday
April 20, 2020**