

The Messenger



**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
1901 MIDDLEBOROUGH RD, ESSEX MD 21221**

What does Pentecost mean to you?



“The Christian holiday of Pentecost is rooted in this historical event – an event sometimes called the “birthday of the church” because it marks the day that Jesus’ disciples began to share the story of Jesus and invite others to share in their faith in Jesus as the Son of God.

But Pentecost is more than just remembering a historical event. On Pentecost, we invite the same Spirit that filled the disciples that day to transform our lives. Even more important than looking backward and remembering what God did two thousand years ago, we look forward and invite the Spirit to pull us into the future. The Holy Spirit has a way of turning things upside down.

The story of Acts is all about how the lives of the disciples got turned upside down – and by extension, how the world turned upside down by this new, Spirit-filled faith.

On Pentecost we invite this disruptive presence of God into our own lives. The fruit of the Spirit, says Paul, is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These are what we seek to live into, how we seek to transform the world, and the evidence of the Spirit at work in our lives and in the world.”

Join us as we celebrate and explore all that Pentecost means for us, on May 31st, 2020 and beyond.

Pastor Meheret's Corner

Dear Friends in Christ,

One of the things I've really been missing during this time of physical distancing is sharing Bible stories to our preschool students in person. We've been doing weekly Zoom Chapel with them, but it's just not the same. I miss seeing their faces as they listen in rapt attention and I miss seeing them all put their thumbs up with me at the beginning and end of the story and hearing them exclaim with me, "God is good all the time!" "Our God is awesome!" Our God IS awesome ... even in hard times, even in storms, even in a global pandemic.

I had a parent tell me once that every night before bed they let their preschooler go to the bookshelf and pick out one book for them to read together before going to sleep. On nights when she doesn't want to go to sleep, she always picks her Bible because it's her thickest book and she figures it will allow her to stay up the longest. Smart kid! The Bible is her friend and a help in time of trouble.

I love it that our preschool students and other Hope kids are learning at an early age, from their teachers and parents, that the Bible is their friend, too. In a very real and concrete way, they also see their Bibles as a help in times of trouble and a refuge when they face the storms of life. As they get older, those troubles will become bigger than having to do what Mom or Dad says, but so will their understanding of the God who walks with them in those troubles. Their storms will become much more profound than having to go to sleep for the night, but so will their sense of the profound love of Christ that surrounds them in those storms. Their Children's Bibles are very basic at this point, but they're just what the kids need right now. Everybody's got to start somewhere. And I'm thankful for our parents and our teachers who are getting them started right.

I think we would all do well to be more like our kids... to turn to the Bible for help in our troubles and shelter in our storms. The books of the Bible offer us some of the most beautiful and comforting words of hope ever written, like:

- ◇ "The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." Psalm 34:1
- ◇ "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh." Luke 6:21
- ◇ Jesus said: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27
- ◇ "For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, 'Do not fear; I will help you.'" Isaiah 41:13
- ◇ "The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing." Zephaniah 3:17

Gorgeous! And there's SO much more! As we go through these troublesome days together, whether your life is just beginning or it's almost time for you to say "Good night", don't forget the friendship, shelter, and hope you have in the words of Scripture. Take it from the kids and take it from me, the Bible can put a grin on your face and carry you even in and through the toughest of times.

~ God's Peace, Pastor Meheret ~



Sunday

JOIN US FOR OUR
ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

Please join us on Sundays

at 10:00 AM for

ONLINE Worship!

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

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 and other discipleship groups and classes.

No Monday Morning Pastor's Class until further notice.

meets Mondays 10 – 11:30 AM in the church office.

Wednesday Night Bible Study:

Zoom meetings on Wednesdays at 7 PM. Currently studying Bible study resource provided by Gather Magazine, For Faith and Action, May 2020 edition. The theme for May is "Plenty good room."

Saturday Morning Breakfast Bible Study:

meets 9-10:30 AM via Zoom every Saturday. We are studying "Justice and the Prophets" (Esther, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hosea, Amos, Micah, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Zechariah, Malachi, 1 Corinthians) from Augsburg Adult Bible Studies, by Walter C. Bouzard.

*****If you would like to join any of the Bible Studies, please let Pastor Meheret know and she will share links, phone number and meeting ID with you. Pastor Meheret, meheretyon@gmail.com, Cell: (240) 413 7515**

Holy God, write your Word on our hearts so that we might move with gracefulness through the world, balanced and whole.

In Jesus' name, Amen.





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

All essential workers, people & families affected by coronavirus, local businesses and all businesses and people affected by this pandemic, 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.**



FOOD FOR THOUGHT UPDATE

We greatly appreciate financial contributions made to Food for Thought "To the Glory of God" during the months of February, March, and April, by the Hayes family, Deloris Phillips, Joan and Bob Schweitzer, Thea Melton, Carol Ogle, Eric Eszes, Carolee Calo, Mary Emge, and Trudy Grauer.

Sadly, because of the closure of schools due to the present pandemic, we have had to temporarily suspend our program. We did deliver an extra weekend of backpacks and a week of gift cards on the last day of school. More importantly, we are reassured that significant nutritional support is available to any students (under age 18) in our area, provided by Baltimore County Public Schools, Mondays through Thursdays, between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at the following walk-in or drive-by sites: Cove Village Apartments (outside office), Chesapeake High School, Deep Creek Middle School, Stemmers Run Middle School, and Sussex Elementary School. Breakfast, lunch, and snack is provided for each day, and for two days on Thursday. Please share this information with any students (or their parents) in your neighborhood who you think could benefit from this program while schools are closed. Other sites throughout Baltimore County are listed on the Baltimore County Public Schools website.

The following is a message received from Caitlin Edwards, School Counselor at Middleborough Elementary School: "I wanted to let you know that after speaking with my administration, we will need to suspend the Food for Thought program until school reopens. Thank you so much for all your hard work and innovative ideas to support our families during this unprecedented time. And please pass along my thanks and well wishes to everyone at Hope Lutheran Church!"

We look forward to resuming Food for Thought deliveries when school reopens.



Planning ahead...

Pentecost Sunday is end of this month...

Planning the Gospel text and/or the Lord's Prayer read in various languages.

Anyone speak a language other than English?

Willing to take part in this?

This is an experiment, no doubt!! But I'm willing to give it a try! Please shoot me an email or text if you are willing to take part in this and let me know what language you will be speaking. — Pastor Meheret





All Stars Christian Learning Center

Now enrolling for Summer 2020

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

Please, 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

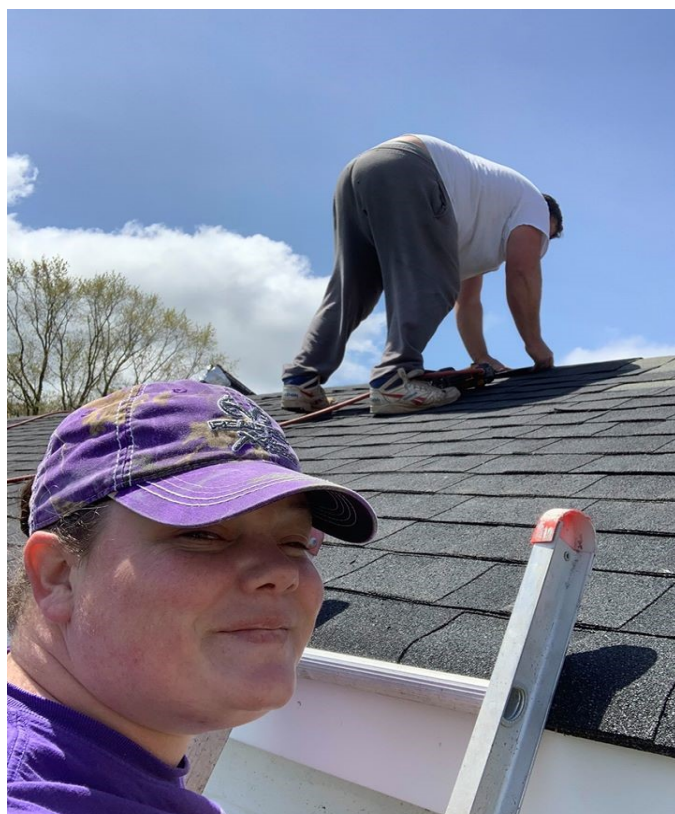
1 day \$50



THANK YOU
& so much



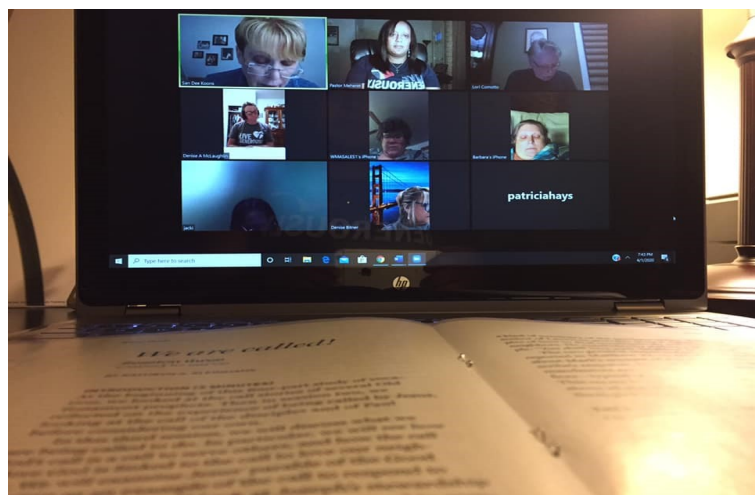
April zoom church council meeting



The Ecks working on the shed's new roof



The Hays Family beautifying the courtyard



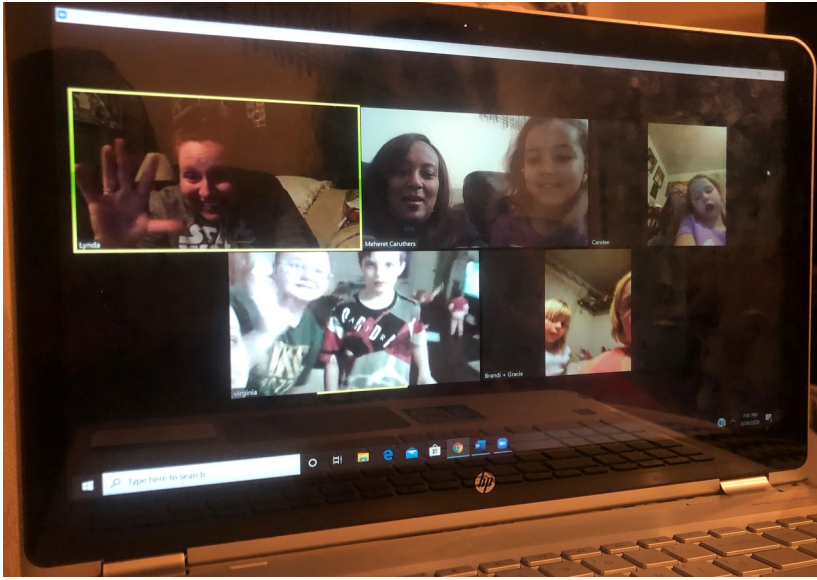
Wednesday Evening Zoom Bible



Jim Eck putting a new roof on the shed

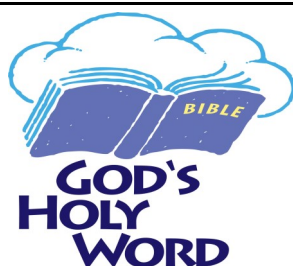


Saturday Morning Zoom Bible Study



Worship Themes for May 2020

Date/Day	Scripture texts	Theme
May 3 Fourth Sunday of Easter	Acts 2:42-47 Psalm 23 1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10:1-10	Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.
May 10 Easter 5	Acts 7:55-60 Psalm 31:1-5,15-16 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14	As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.
May 17 Easter 6	Acts 17:22-31 Psalm 66:8-20 1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21	Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.
May 24 Easter 7	Acts 1:6-14 Psalm 68:1-10,32-35 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 John 17:1-11	In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.
May 31 Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34,35b 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 John 20:19-23	Pentecost derives its name from the Jewish festival celebrating the harvest and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit as God's presence within and among us. In Acts the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God's presence to all people. Paul reminds us that though we each have different capacities, we are unified in the Spirit that equips us with these gifts. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on his disciples, empowering them to forgive sin. We celebrate that we too are given the breath of the Holy Spirit and sent out to proclaim God's redeeming love to all the world.



Potential Duty Schedule for May 2020

9:00	3 May	10 May	17 May	24 May	31 May
Assist	Bob Schweitzer	Colan Kahl	Joan Schweitzer	San Dee Koons	Bob Schweitzer
Lector	Bob Schweitzer	Eric Carl	Joan Schweitzer	Cary Koons	Bob Schweitzer
Server	Patty Horney	Carol Ogle	Thea Melton	Patty Horney	Joan Schweitzer
Usher/ Greeter	Rick Calo Sue Alexander	Jess Kahl Thea Melton	Eric Eszes Carol Ogle	Frank Schmidt Carol Ogle	Eric Eszes Rick Calo
10:30			10:30		
Assist	Robin Palmer	John Kelly	Lori Comotto	Lynda Frueh	Brandi Miner
Lector	Debbie Cannon	John Kelly	Sharyn Kahl	Brian Frueh	Brandi Miner
Server	Sandy Cincinnati	Donna Smith	Denise McLaughlin	Peggy Talbott	Donna Smith
Usher/ Greeter	Denise McLaughlin	Jeanne Faust Eric Eszes	Sandy Cincinnati Trish Hays	Linda Moler Mary Emge	Trish Hays Hayley Hays
Children Church	Ruth Kraeger	Lynne Lake	Marge Carl	Brandi Miner	Jackie Eversley
KBZ	Carolee Calo	Brandi Miner	Lynda Frueh	Denise McLaughlin	Lynne Lake
Altar Set Up	Joan and Bob Schweitzer	Colan Kahl	Thea Melton	San Dee and Cary Koons	Joan/Bob Schweitzer
Counters	Bob Schweitzer Trudy Grauer	Colan Kahl Jeanne Faust	Linda Moler Deloris Phillips	Donna Smith Steve/Sharyn Kahl	Bob Schweitzer Trudy Grauer
Unavailable					





MAY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:00 AM Traditional Communion 10:00 AM Online Worship.	27 7:00 PM Council Meeting	28	29 7:00 PM Bible Study	30	1	2 9:00 AM Zoom Bible Study
3 10:00 AM Online Worship Service.	4 9:00 AM Quilters 10:00 AM No Bible Study	5	6 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study 7:00 PM Streets of Hope	7 7:00 PM No Choir Practice	8	9 9:00 AM Zoom Bible Study
10 10:00 AM Online Worship Service. Mother's Day	11 9:00 AM Quilters 10:00 AM Bible Study	12 6:30 PM Learning Center Board Meeting	13 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	14 7:00 PM Choir Practice	15	16 9:00 AM Zoom Bible Study
17 10:00 AM Online Worship Service.	18 9:00 AM Quilters 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM Council Meeting	19	20 7:00 PM Bible Study	21 7:00 PM Choir Practice	22	23 8:00 AM Breakfast Bible Discussion at Alice's Restaurant
24 9:00 AM Traditional Communion 10:30 AM Family Contemporary Communion 10:30 AM Kidz Bible Zone	25 Memorial Day 9:00 AM Quilters 10:00 AM Bible Study	26	27 7:00 PM Bible Study	28 7:00 PM Choir Practice	29	30 8:00 AM Breakfast Bible Discussion at Alice's Restaurant
31 Pentecost 9:00 AM Traditional Communion 10:30 AM Family Contemporary Communion 10:30 AM Kidz Bible Zone	1 9:00 AM Quilters 10:00 AM Bible Study	2	3 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Streets of Hope	4 7:00 PM Choir Practice	5	6 8:00 AM Breakfast Bible Discussion at Alice's Restaurant





02	Bev Hoffman
04	Edward Klingenstein
06	Bobbie Hershey
12	Bobbi Floyd
14	Mitchell Bigham
14	Zegbeh Kpadeh
19	Linda Neewary
19	Buddy McLaughlin
19	Brittany Ouimette
20	Dylan Talbott
21	Blanche Cardarelli
22	Sharyn Kahl
24	Sandra Cincinnati
28	Kiersten Williams
31	Robert Caruthers



Happy Birthday To You

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





To all our amazing mothers & mother figures out there whether you are a past, present or soon to be moms! May your day be filled with love, joy, laughter and God's blessings!

Thank you
MAY GOD BLESS you

Dear church,

We have never experienced anything like this COVID-19 shelter-in-place pandemic. The veracity of the virus, and its rapid infection of the human body, makes it a dire consequence of living in community. We are learning day-by-day how to best protect ourselves and our neighbors. I applaud all your efforts. As you know, there is no time-line for us to know when we will be allowed to gather again in groups. I would never have thought that I had preached my last sermon to you, face to face, this past March.

I want to thank you all for all your generosity in so many ways, support, prayers, patience, service and ministry! Thank you to all essential works! Our God is so good! Thank you! Praying for you all everyday!

Pastor Meheret

Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church

Our Staff

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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

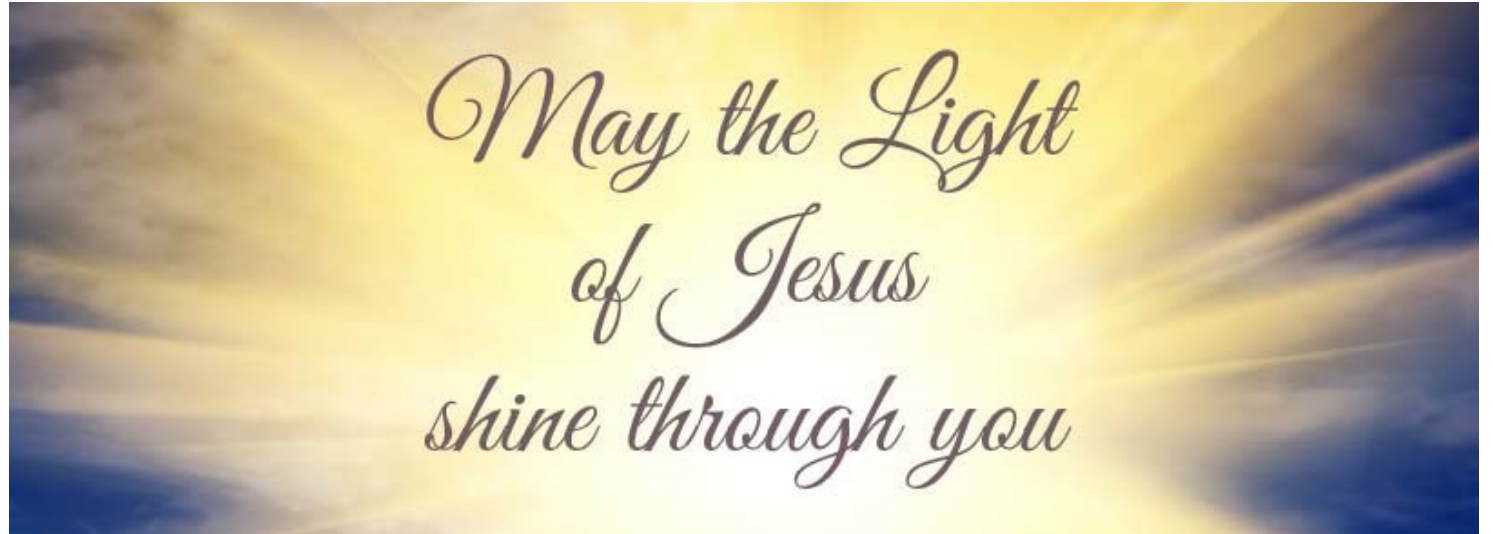
Council President: **Colan Kahl** • Home 410-292-2544

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

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

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

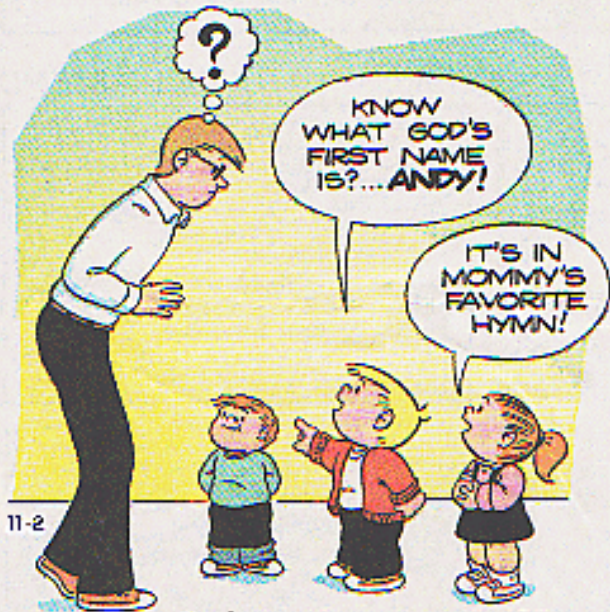
Jack Crout	Youth
Nicole Eck	443-271-4014
Trish Hays	410-687-3411
Sharyn Kahl	410-574-3060
San Dee Koons	443-421-4477
Lynne Lake	443-854-0708, Youth Leader
Denise McLaughlin	410-686-0199



*May the Light
of Jesus
shine through you*

THE FAMILY CIRCUS®

By BIL KEANE



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"IN THE GARDEN" by C.A. MILES

JEFF
and
BIL
KEANE



Articles for the June Messenger are due by May 18th
Please honor this date.

We will be having a July/August combination issue of the
Messenger, articles due by June 11th, so please plan ahead!

