



MERRY
Christmas



**HOPE LUTHERAN
CHURCH
NEWSLETTER**

DECEMBER 2021



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All members and friends of Hope Lutheran Church are invited to join the congregation in celebrating our 25th Anniversary. We are highlighting the months of December 2021 through May 2022 for our celebration, in commemoration of the first worship service of the Wake Forest Lutheran Mission in December 1996 and the church's Charter Sunday in May 1997. We rejoice at the countless gifts of grace God has shared with the people of Hope through the past years, even as we recommit ourselves to carrying on our mission in the present and future.



You are invited to join us on the weekend of December 4-5, as we kick off Hope's 25th Anniversary celebration with a weekend of festive worship services (Saturday 5:30 PM; Sunday 8:30 & 11:00 AM). A special 25th Anniversary fellowship reception will be held in the Children's Center after each service.

Other 25th Anniversary-themed worship services will take place on February 5-6 (guest preacher former Associate Pastor Tab Cosgrove), April 3-4, and May 14-15 (special preacher Pastor *Emeritus* Preston Wagner). Watch for more information about special 25th Anniversary fellowship events to take place at Hope next May.

In gratitude for God's blessings, you are welcome to make a special 25th Anniversary Thank-Offering, over and above regular and year-end offerings. Gifts and contributions will establish a new "Silver Mission Fund" at Hope, to provide annual grants for mission initiatives in our congregation, circuit, and district. Feel free to contribute once, or monthly throughout the Anniversary celebration period. Please mark your gift "Anniversary Thank-Offering."



Advent & Christmas Calendar

Christmas Poinsettias will adorn the chancel and windows at Hope. They may be purchased in memory or honor of loved ones. Sign up online at www.hopelutheranwf.org/worship-resources. The cost is \$12 each with checks payable to Hope, earmarked "poinsettias." The poinsettias may be taken home after the 11:00PM Christmas Eve Service.



Advent Begins!

The Advent season begins with weekend services on November 27-28 and Wednesday evening services on December 1 & 8 at 7:00 PM.

Angel Tree

Each year Hope Lutheran Church adopts families in need for Christmas and delivers gift donations. Pick out a gift tag from the Angel Tree on November 27-28 or December 5, enjoy your shopping, and share the love of Christ. Wrapped gifts are due back to Hope on December 12. Help is needed in delivering gifts to families. Contact Claudia Van Hook at claudiavanhook@gmail.com or Susan Johanson at rjohanson@nc.rr.com if you would like to help distribute gifts – drivers are needed!



Live Nativity

Every year the people of Hope work together to share the Bible story of Christmas with our community. Mark your calendar for our three Live Nativity performances: Saturday, December 11 at 6:45 & 7:45 PM; and Sunday, December 12 at 7:00 PM.



Advent & Christmas Calendar

Cantata

Presented by Hope's choirs and musicians, the story of Christ's birth is celebrated in the sacred songs of the season on December 12 at the 8:30 & 11:00 AM services.

Kid's Ministry Christmas Pageant

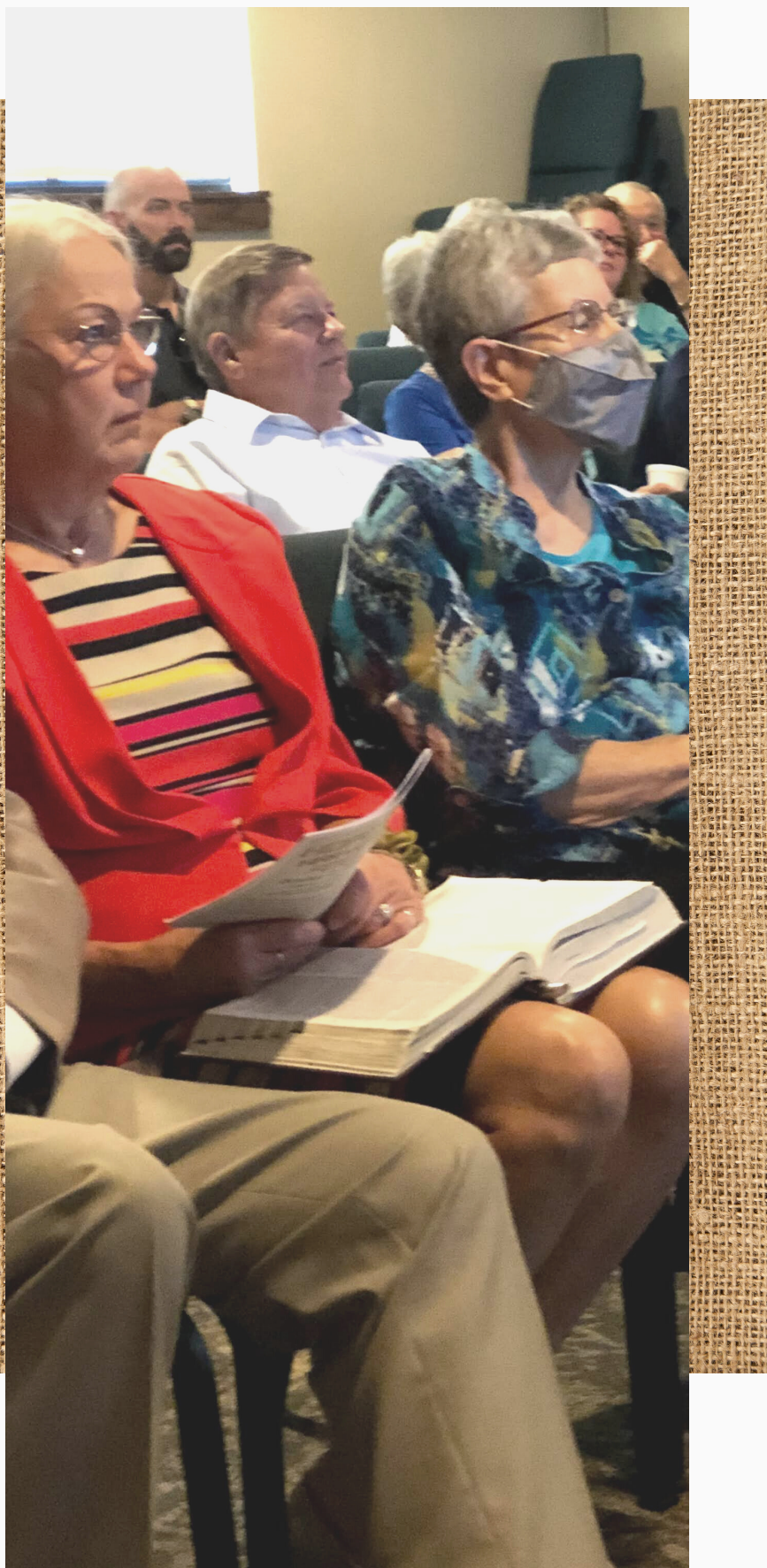
Hope's children have been busy learning lines, making costumes, and singing joyful songs celebrating the birth of Jesus! Everyone is invited to the pageant on December 15 at 7:00 PM.

Christmas Eve Services

Friday, December 24; 3:30, 5:00, 6:30, 8:00, & 11:00 PM. You are invited to Hope Lutheran Church as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, with 5 services to meet your worship needs.

- Family Candlelight Services – 3:30, 5:00, 6:30, 8:00 PM. This family-friendly service includes a Children's Message (first 3 services), Christmas hymns, and candlelight.
- Candlelight Service of Holy Communion – 11:00PM. This traditional late service features Christmas hymns, candlelight, and Holy Communion. Pre-service music begins at 10:40PM.





ADULT EDUCATION IN DECEMBER

RUTH

December 5-19

From 9:45-10:45 AM Sunday
mornings

The book of Ruth relates a beautiful story in the history of King David's family, illustrating how God works through suffering and redemption to preserve his people and to welcome all nations. These aspects of the book point to the birth of Jesus, the world's Redeemer, who descends from Ruth and Boaz.

This class is led by Pastor Lew and Vicar James is on the Adult Education floor, in room 301.

Visitors are invited to attend.

NEWS & EVENTS

2022 WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE

January 5 – 23

WNA is Hope's midweek ministry opportunity for all ages to gather for dinner, Bible study, fellowship, and fun. Visit www.hopelutheranwf.org/WNA for the menu and more details.

YEAR-END GIFTS

All gifts must be postmarked or received by Tuesday, December 31, 2021 in order to be included in your 2021 year-end record of giving. Please complete your pledges by the end of the year. If you have questions about your giving, contact Operations Manager, Hilary Tew, at 919-554-8109 or htew@hopelutheranwf.org. Thank you for all your gifts and contributions in 2021!

MOVED? CHANGED EMAILS?

Have you moved? Changed your email? Please contact Amy Elder, Communications Manager, at aelder@hopelutheranwf.org or 919-554-8109 with any changes to your family's contact information.



FLOWER CHART

The 2022 Flower Chart is now available. You may sign up to donate flowers in memory or in honor of loved ones or to observe special occasions. Flowers are \$55.00 with checks earmarked "flowers."

Register online to reserve your date at www.hopelutheranwg.org/worship-resources.

DONATE WITH AMAZON SMILE

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Hope Lutheran Church. Shop for everyone on your list at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/56-2026911> and Amazon donates to Hope Lutheran!

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Rebecca A. Horsley Memorial Scholarship has been established, and will provide an annual scholarship in Becky Horsley's memory for students pursuing a career in education. Applicants must be from the Wake Forest area, and must be graduating high school seniors or students currently enrolled in a college or university majoring in education or elementary education. For a copy of the scholarship guidelines and application, please contact Pastor Wayne Puls or Lead DCE Beth Agner. Application deadline is December 31.



Come and join the women of Hope for our 4th annual Christmas event.

When: December 3rd 7pm-9pm

Where: Hope Lutheran Church Adult Center

Cost: \$10 and an ornament to exchange

Our evening will include devotion, light refreshments, craft and an exchange.

Sign up at www.hopelutheranwf.org/women.

MISSIONS – LOCAL & TRIPS

The people of Hope Lutheran Church are committed to making a positive, joyful, caring impact on the community around us.

DISASTER RELIEF CONFERENCE & TRAINING

All are invited to a Disaster Response Conference & Training, sponsored by the Southeastern District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Join others interested in disaster response ministry on January 27-28, 2022 for two exciting days (and an optional third half-day) of practical training sessions, reports from the field, enjoyable fellowship, inspiring first-hand ministry stories, and information on upcoming service opportunities. The conference will be held at Ocean Reef Resort in Myrtle Beach, SC. For further information and to register, visit Hope's website at www.hopelutheranwf.org/missions.



BROWN BAG MINISTRY

Join the Brown Bag Ministry in fellowship and service on December 21 at 11:00AM. The group will meet outside of the kitchen for sandwich making and lunch bag assembly. Then after praying over the lunches, the group will go to New Hope Village apartments about 11:45AM for distribution. For easy sign up please go to www.hopelutheranwf.org/missions.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Hope was privileged to welcome 51 people (34 adults, 17 children and youth) into our congregation this fall. If you see a new face, introduce yourself and welcome them to Hope!



Robin Barrett



Derek, Robin, Lincoln, & Kayleigh Clager



Karmyn, Shay, Lucas, & Emory Eyles



Zachary, Adrienne, James, Hannah, & Hope Fox



Rob, Cari, William, Jonathan, Christopher, Gigi, & Hannah Froelich



Rose Golden



Kristen Hobbie



Ken & Joanne Kempel



Don & Carole Ketter

Continued...



Apryll Kingsbury



Alan & Bunny Lindley



Gary & Kathleen Neal



Peggy Nickola



**Adam, Christa, Amelia, & Jacob
Perfitt**



Karl Portner



John & Daniel Saffold



Dick Silverthorn



Chris & Izabel Sorensen



Ron & Debbie Tanciar



Jan & Tom Thalman



Stephanie Younce



KID'S MINISTRY

Christmas Pageant

Sign up now to be in Hope's Annual Christmas Pageant, "Glory to God in the Lowest" Children that are in 4 year-old preschool through the 4th grade will learn songs during Sunday School. Another option may be to buy the music on Itunes practice at home (great option for Saturday night families). Rehearsals for everyone are on December 5 from 3:30-5:30 (full cast rehearsal) and December 12 from 1:30-4:30 (full cast - dress rehearsal).

All children will be dressed as sheep this year so we ask you to plan on them wearing white shirts or dresses, we will provide them with a "sheep head" to wear. Sign up today at www.hopelutheranwf.org/kids.



An Christmas event for Kindergarten and below.
When: December 4th from 10am-11am
Cost: Free gift to you!
We will read stories, sing songs, do a craft, have a snack and enjoy time with each other.
Feel free to come in some comfy Christmas Jammies!



JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE

Christmas

Children's Ministry Annual Christmas Party
Who: 1st-4th graders
When: December 12th
Time: 4:30-7:00
Cost: Free

The children will have crafts, dinner, games, caroling, and hot cocoa. Afterwards, stay for the Live Nativity at the back parking lot.





YOUTH MINISTRY

5&6 GRADE CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 10 from 6:30–8:00 PM, you're invited to celebrate Christ's birth together in a memorable way. The kids will hear the Christmas story, play games, eat pizza, and even complete a Christmas service project for a local children's hospital. Ugly sweaters and Christmas PJs are highly encouraged. Sign up coming soon.

7&8 GRADE CHRISTMAS PARTY

It's the most wonderful time of the year! On December 11 from 6:30–8:00 PM, it's our annual Christmas party! Come join your friends in some Christmas theme games, lesson, and a white elephant gift exchange. What is a white elephant gift exchange? It is a fun game where you wrap a present valued \$10 and youth take turns opening gifts. Each youth will then have the opportunity to take an open gift from another youth, or take their chances and open a wrapped gift. There is no cost to this event, just bring a wrapped gift valued at \$10.

9–12 GRADE CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 12 from 6:30–8:00 PM, it's our annual Christmas party! Come join your friends in some Christmas theme games, lesson, and a white elephant gift exchange. What is a white elephant gift exchange? It is a fun game where you wrap a present valued \$10 and youth take turns opening gifts. Each youth will then have the opportunity to take an open gift from another youth, or take their chances and open a wrapped gift. There is no cost to this event, just bring a wrapped gift valued at \$10.



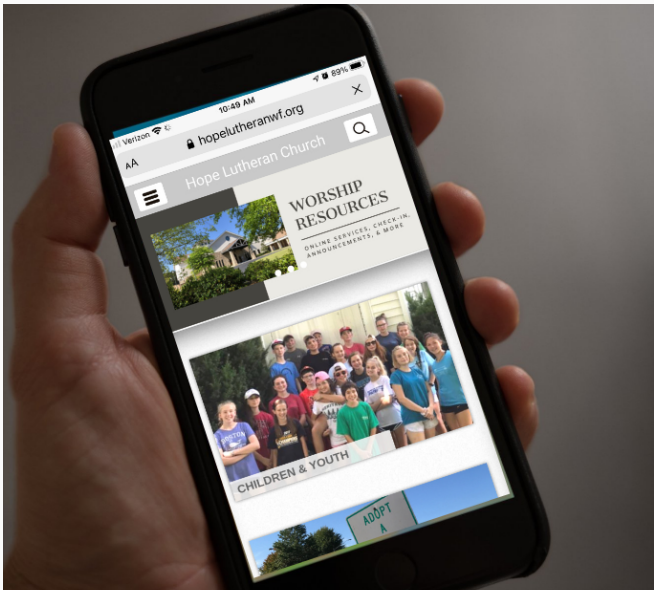
YOUTH GROUP NEWS!

ADVENT YOUTH GROUP TIME CHANGE

During Advent, the 5 & 6 Grade and 7 & 8 Grade Youth Groups will take place from 6:30–7:00 PM, then youth will walk upstairs and join in the Advent worship service from 7:00–7:45 PM. Mark your calendar for this change on December 1, 8, and 15. There will be no youth group December 22 and 29.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Please mark your calendar that there is no Youth Group on December 26 or January 2.



STAY CONNECTED @HOPE

Website - www.hopelutheranwf.org

Hope's website has all of the news, events, and sign up links needed to help you stay informed. Can't find something, use the search feature to find it on our website.

Social Media



HopeLutheranWF



HopeLutheran_WF
HopeYouth_WF



Text alerts. Visit remind.com/join & enter code.

- 5-6 Grade Youth & Parents (hope56);
- Confirmation (hopeconf20);
- 7-8 Parents & Youth (7-8parent);
- HS Youth (hope9-12); HS Parents (hope-hs)

Church Office

Have a question and cannot find the answer? Call the church office during business hours at 919-554-8109.