

# Merry Christmas



**December 2019**  
Monthly Newsletter of  
Hope Lutheran Church

## Contact Information

### Hope Lutheran Church

3525 Rogers Road  
Wake Forest, NC 27587  
919-554-8109, phone  
919-453-0312, fax

### Preschool

919-453-0388

### Xplore Track Out & Little Blessings

919-229-0196

## Worship Services

Saturday at 5:30PM  
Sunday at 8:30AM & 11:00AM  
*Nursery provided at all services*

## Sunday Christian Education

9:45-10:45AM  
Sunday School for  
ages 3 – grade 12  
Adult Bible Studies

## Wednesday Evenings in December

*The next Wednesday Night Alive is  
January 8 - February 19, 2020*

5:25-5:45: Children's Bell Choir  
5:50-6:25: Children's Choir  
6:00-7:30: Adult Handbell Choir  
6:30-7:30: Confirmation classes  
6:30-7:30: 7&8 Youth Group\*  
7:45-9:15: Senior Choir

*\*High School Youth Group is  
Sunday Nights from 6:30-8:00PM.*

# Pastor Puls' Reflection...The Season Of Giving

Friends in Christ,

Here we are again, just a few weeks from Christmas! I know it's a crazy time, but I love everything about the holiday season. I especially appreciate all of the extra opportunities that we have to give and share, in the spirit of the season. Giving to charities, sharing with those who are in need, exchanging presents, pitching in at church, sending cards, spending time reconnecting with family and friends ... this really is the season of giving!

I hope you find your own ways to commemorate the birth of Christ by giving of yourself to others in this joyous season. More than that, I pray that you take some time to reflect on the incomparably precious gift God gave to you on the first Christmas. God's Son took on your human flesh, entered your world, and saved you from the death penalty of your sin. In the Christ Child, God gave you forgiveness, new life, and eternal salvation. What a gift!

In the days ahead, do all the Christmas giving you can do. But let God's Christmas giving be your greatest joy, your deepest motive, and your ultimate gladness. Merry Christmas, in the name of Christ, God's supreme gift!

*Pastor Wayne Puls*

Pastor Wayne Puls  
wpuls@hopelutheranwf.org  
919-554-8109



# Wednesday Night Alive

January 8 - February 19

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



## 2020 Flower Chart

The 2020 Flower Chart is located on the wall in the church office hallway. 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.” If you don’t have time to stop in the office, you can email DeanNa Clelland, Office Receptionist, at [dclelland@hopelutheranwf.org](mailto:dclelland@hopelutheranwf.org) to reserve your weekend.

## Holiday Closings

The **Church office** will be closed on December 24 & 25 and January 1. The **Preschool** will be closed on December 23- - January 6, 2020. **Xplore Track Out Camp** will be closed December 23-January 3, 2020. **Little Blessings** will be closed December 23- - January 2, 2020.

## Moved? Change Emails?

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

## Year-End Gifts

All gifts must be **postmarked or received** by Tuesday, December 31, 2019 in order to be included in your 2019 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](mailto:htew@hopelutheranwf.org). Thank you for all your gifts and contributions in 2019!

## Building Fund Envelopes

For many years, a monthly “Building Fund” envelope has been included in our offering envelope sets. Thanks to all who utilize this opportunity to share your blessings, and to help the congregation manage expenses related to our building programs through the years and the repayment of long-term loans.

Beginning in January 2020, the name on this special envelope will be changed. Instead of a monthly “Building Fund” envelope, you will see a monthly “Facilities Fund” envelope. All contributions placed in these envelopes will be set aside to help keep Hope’s ministry facilities in excellent condition. Thanks to all who are generously helping Hope’s ministry keep moving forward through our current **Teamwork Campaign**, and to all who will continue to utilize our new “Facilities Fund” envelopes.

## Donate with Amazon Smile

When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://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/12-2026911> and Amazon donates to Hope Lutheran!**

## Men’s Ministry Event at Brooks Street Bowl

**December 10, from 7:00-9:00PM**

All men (21 and over) are invited to come bowl and fellowship at Brooks Street in Wake Forest for “\$2 Tuesday.” This means the cost is \$2 for shoe rentals and \$2 per game. Now the question is...can you spare some time for fun? Questions? Contact DCE’s Steve McCarthy or Wesley Spottiswood at 919-554-8109.



# Advent & Christmas Calendar

## Worship Services

### Advent Midweek Services

Wednesday evenings, December 4 & 11 at 7:00PM

Join us for the next two Wednesdays for a special time of worship and prayer. We will continue our “Intrude” sermon series, focusing on how Jesus intrudes into the lives of characters from the Christmas story.

### Cantata - “Promise of a Child”

December 15 at 8:30 & 11:00AM

Presented by Hope’s choirs and musicians, the story of Christ’s birth is celebrated in the sacred songs of the season focusing on the journey to Bethlehem and the birth of Jesus Christ in place of the normal Communion services. Please note, the Saturday service (5:30PM) will take place at the regular times with Communion offered.

### Children’s Christmas Pageant

December 18 at 7:00PM

This year’s play, *Away In A Mango*, is set on a holiday cruise when the boat, the SS Mango, is caught in an unexpected storm and washed ashore on a deserted island. All aboard for a totally fresh, totally fun Christmas adventure for kids as they join the intrepid castaways of the SS Mango. After all, the story of the birth of Jesus is the story of lost people, unable to save themselves, being rescued by the long-awaited Savior!

### Carol Service of Holy Communion

December 22 at 8:30 & 11:00AM

A traditional Sunday service containing well-known Christmas carols, Advent and Nativity Bible readings, and Holy Communion.

### Christmas Eve Services

December 24; 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00, & 11:00PM

Christmas Eve at Hope Lutheran Church celebrates the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, with 6 different-styled services to meet your worship needs. You’re invited to worship with Hope this Christmas Eve!

- **Children’s Christmas Services – 3:00, 5:00, 7:00PM.** This service is designed for younger children and families with lots of interaction, songs, and humor. Hope is adding a third service at 7:00PM that will be located in the Children’s Center. Please note, this does not replace the 7:00PM family service in the Sanctuary.
- **Family Candlelight Services - 7:00PM & 9:00PM.** This family service contains a Children’s Message and Christmas hymns.
- **Traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Holy Communion - 11:00PM.** This traditional late service contains Christmas hymns, candlelight, and Holy Communion. Pre-service Christmas music begins at 10:30PM.





## Events

### Altar Care Christmas Decorating

Altar Care Christmas Decorating will take place on **Saturday, December 7 at 9:00AM** by Altar Care volunteers, assisted by the Men of Hope. All are welcome to come help prepare Hope for the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

### Christmas Poinsettias

adorn the chancel and windows at Hope. They may be purchased in memory or honor of loved ones. Sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Narthex. The cost is \$11 each with checks payable to Hope, earmarked "poinsettias." The poinsettias will be available for you to take home after the 11:00PM Christmas Eve Service.

### Annual Christmas Angel Tree Outreach

**Gifts Due at Hope: Sunday, December 8**

Each year Hope Lutheran Church adopts families in need for Christmas and delivers gift and food donations. To participate, select an angel ornament from the Christmas tree in the Narthex. The request from a family member will be on the front of the angel and specific instructions for the gift return will be on the back. Contact Claudia Van Hook at [claudiavanhook@gmail.com](mailto:claudiavanhook@gmail.com) or Susan Johanson at [rjohanson@nc.rr.com](mailto:rjohanson@nc.rr.com) if you would like to help distribute gifts – drivers are needed!

### The 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 two Live Nativity performances: **Saturday, December 7, 6:45 PM; and Sunday, December 8, 7:00 PM.** Invite a friend or neighbor to join you for this holiday season treat! Extra helpers are needed on these dates to set up for the performances. Call the church office if you can lend a hand.

### Annual Christmas Cookie Exchange

**December 15 after the 11:00AM service on the Adult Education Floor, room 300**

Come join in the fun, fellowship, and cookies! Bring your favorite Christmas cookies (4 dozen in packages of six with recipes) to exchange for some other great cookies. Sign up in the Narthex or contact Nancy Repak at 919-279-3801 or [kapernan@gmail.com](mailto:kapernan@gmail.com). Don't forget to bring a few copies of your recipe and few extra cookies to share!

### The Preschool Christmas Program

**December 19 & 20 at 9:30AM**

The Preschool children will present their Christmas Program, "The Best Gift," to their families. Everyone is welcome to attend!

# Adult Education in December

Sunday Mornings, 9:45-10:45am; Visitors welcome! For a sneak peek into January, visit [www.hopelutheranwf.org/adulted](http://www.hopelutheranwf.org/adulted).

*\*Please note, there will be no classes on December 29, 2019*

## A Sure Voice

Date: December 1 (one session)

Location: Adult Education Floor, room 301

Leader: Vicar Zach Sarrault

Isaiah prophesies so often about the coming Messiah that some commentators have called his prophecy the “Fifth Gospel.”

## The Magi

Date: December 8 (one session)

Location: Adult Education Floor, room 301

Leader: Luke Tew

According to Matthew, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem and were the first to bow and worship the Lord Jesus. But who were these men and from where in the East did they come? Challenging questions, for sure!

## Bethlehem Revisited

Date: December 15 (one session)

Location: Adult Education Floor, room 301

Leader: Dr. Peter Muller

A contemporary biblical scholar offers a different take on our traditional understanding of the nativity scene. Led by Dr. Peter Muller.

## Good News!

Date: December 22

Location: Adult Education Floor, room 301

Leader: Jack Pizzolato

In anticipation of the Christmas celebration, you are invited to take a closer look at Jesus’ birth as recorded in Luke Chapter 2.





# THE LIVE NATIVITY

December 7 at 6:45PM &  
December 8 at 7:00PM

## Teamwork Campaign

Thanks be to God, for all of the wonderful gifts and blessings he shares with us through our congregation! Responding in faith and love to God's goodness, many members of Hope have made generous gifts and commitments for the **Teamwork Campaign**. The campaign is addressing present and future ministry facilities projects, and enabling Hope to maintain our mission of reaching people for Christ as our highest priority.



Original Campaign Goal (9/22)	\$300,000
Commitments Received (12/2)	\$431,237
Gifts Received (12/2)	\$157,749.22

Thanks be to God, who makes all good things possible!

### Projects Completed



### Projects Underway



### Projects Remaining





# Outreach & Mission Ministries



## HopeChest Thank You

HopeChest Ministry offers free clothing and small housewares to the community a few times each year. The ministry depends on donations and volunteers from Hope members. Thanks to generous donations and many volunteers, the ministry touched the lives of many people in the community in 2019!

Mark your calendars for the next HopeChest event scheduled for Saturday, February 1, 2020. Our first HopeChest of the new year will be clothing and housewares.

Clothing collections will be before/after services on January 25-26, and during the week from 8am-5pm. Volunteers are also needed to help sort clothing on Thursday, January 30 starting at 11:00AM.



## Tri-Area Ministry Food Donations

This wonderful organization serves families that live in Wake County and Youngsville. The ministry allows registered families to come in once a month to pick up a bag stuffed with groceries for no charge. Nearly 200 families go to the ministry each week. ***This month, the ministry is in need of cereal, canned fruit, and Chef Boyardee.*** A collection bin is available in the café area, and you are welcome to donate at any time to this blessed ministry.

Questions? If you have any questions about this ministry, please contact Jill Schaefer at [jmschaef@yahoo.com](mailto:jmschaef@yahoo.com).

## Coffee from Guatemala for Sale

**December 7-8 in the café.**

The Mission Team brought back Godoy's Gourmet Organic Coffee, grown high on volcanic slopes in Guatemala. All proceeds will be paid forward to support the 2020 Mission Team.

## 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 <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409of4ba5ac2da57-brown1>.

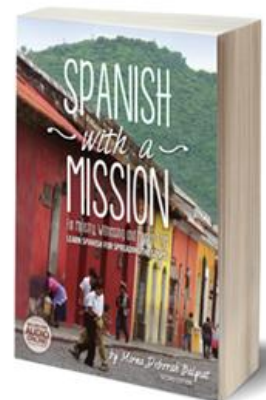
## Adopt-A-Highway

**December 7 at 9:00AM**

Volunteers are needed to spend time picking up trash that has accumulated on the sides of Forestville Road. Meet at church and wear long pants and long sleeves. Vests, gloves, and water will be provided. Youth 12 or older are invited. Questions? Contact Jeff Vukovich at 919-556-9174 or [jeff.vukovich@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.vukovich@gmail.com).

## "iProclamar!" Spanish Language Class Starting at Hope

January 7, 2020 at 6:30PM on the Adult Education floor, room 302. In the New Year, Hope will offer its first Spanish as a second language class! The weekly class will explore conversation, grammar, music and more, with an eye toward various mission opportunities in which our volunteers can apply these skills as we "proclaim and live the word and love of Christ" in 2020 and beyond. Any level of Spanish ability is welcome. Interested? Contact Hilary Tew as soon as possible at [htew@hopelutheranwf.org](mailto:htew@hopelutheranwf.org). The cost for class materials is \$30, with each participant purchasing their own book. To order online, visit <https://bit.ly/2KJXiNr>.





# Disaster Relief Updates

## Puerto Rico Roof Project

Volunteers from Hope have made three trips to Puerto Rico during the past two years. We have seen thousands of homes still covered by blue tarps, as homeowners don't have the means to repair/replace their roofs. Our congregation is forming a network of LCMS churches, in order to put corrugated zinc roofs on twenty houses damaged by Hurricane Maria (September 2017) in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. While we can't solve all of the urgent needs of the people of Mayaguez, we can at least help provide a secure roof for some homeowners, and help steer them to the LCMS mission congregation in their city.



Four volunteer trips will take place over a four-month period. We are looking for Hope volunteers to step forward for the first trip, February 22-29.

For more information, come to an information meeting Wednesday, December 4 from 6:00-6:55PM in Conference room 203; or contact Pastor Wayne Puls ([wpuls@hopelutheranwf.org](mailto:wpuls@hopelutheranwf.org)), Wesley Spottiswood ([wspottiswood@hopelutheranwf.org](mailto:wspottiswood@hopelutheranwf.org)), or Hilary Tew ([htew@hopelutheranwf.org](mailto:htew@hopelutheranwf.org)). If you wish to make a contribution in support of the project, mark your envelope/check "Puerto Rico."

## Disaster Relief Conference & Training

Have you ever volunteered in response to a disaster? Are you interested in getting involved in disaster response ministry? Looking for practical training and instruction?

All Hope members and friends are invited to sign up for a Disaster Response Conference & Training, sponsored by the Southeastern District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Join us January 23-24, 2020 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 Crown Reef Resort Waterpark 7 Conference Center in Myrtle Beach, SC. For further information and to register, visit Hope's website at [www.hopelutheranwf.org/disaster-relief](http://www.hopelutheranwf.org/disaster-relief).

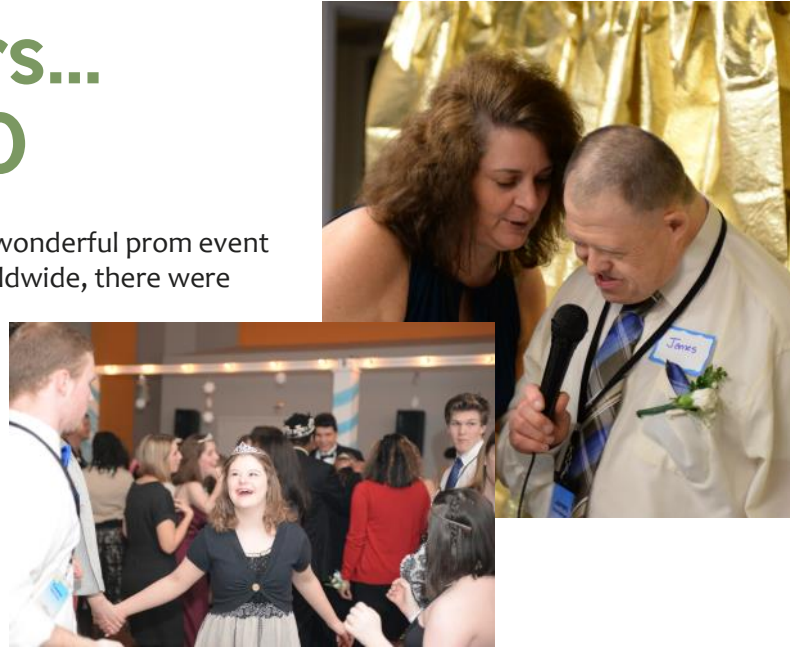


# Mark Your Calendars... Night To Shine 2020

**Save the Date: February 7, 2020 from 6:00-9:00PM**

Night to Shine, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation, is a wonderful prom event that celebrates God's love for people with special needs. Worldwide, there were 15,000 volunteers and 7,000 honored guests joining together to celebrate. WOW! Hope Lutheran will be a host site again, and plans have already begun! Volunteers are needed to host guests, work a station, and set-up and/or clean-up.

Volunteer registration will begin in late December, watch the bulletin for specific dates and volunteer opportunities.



## Stephen Ministry Training Class

Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who provide a one-to-one caring, confidential ministry to people experiencing grief, divorce, loneliness, job loss, hospitalization, and many other life difficulties. This ministry has been helping people at Hope for 20 years.

If you have a caring heart and one hour per week to spend with someone going through one of life's difficulties, then Stephen Ministry may be for you! Training begins on January 6, 2020 at 7:00PM. Questions? Contact Jerry Garlington at 850-376-0488 or Andy Barrett at 919-349-5599.



stephen  
MINISTRY.

# B.R.E.W

## (Building Relationships, Exploring the Word)

Being a young adult isn't easy – it's a strange, transitory time in your life. It's a time when people need solid friends, personal growth, and God's wisdom more than ever. The leaders hope and pray that you will find all those and more through Hope's young adult ministry because God knows we need it. Building Relationships and Exploring the Word – that's what B.R.E.W. is all about.

### **BREW White Elephant Christmas Party**

**December 22 from 6:00-9:00PM at Steve & Wesley's apartment.** Back in town for the holidays? Get together with old friends and make some new ones at the annual Young Adult Christmas party! Bring a white elephant gift (\$20 or less), an ugly Christmas sweater, and some Christmas spirit! Contact Steve McCarthy to RSVP [smccarthy@hopelutheranwf.org](mailto:smccarthy@hopelutheranwf.org).

## Small Group Ministry

*Are you looking for a place to belong? Seeking Christian friends to share life's journey? Desiring to grow as a child of God?*

It can certainly be intimidating to try to get connected in a large church. Meeting people and establishing relationships can be challenging for newcomers and long-time members alike. Hope's Small Group Ministry may just be the answer you've been looking for! Everyone is invited to participate in any of Hope's 26 Small Groups, not just members of the congregation. Stop by the display in the café area or visit Hope's website at [www.hopelutheranwf.org](http://www.hopelutheranwf.org) to learn more.

### **CARDS AT HOPE - ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!**

#### **BRIDGE GROUP**

December 9 & 23 at 1:00PM. If you plan to come, contact Pam Jay at [jay0826@gmail.com](mailto:jay0826@gmail.com).

#### **PINOCHLE GROUP**

December 1 & 16 at 1:00PM. Contact Peggy Koehler at 919-231-9563 or Jan Hubbard at 919-850-2542 if you plan to play.

### **NEW SMALL GROUP - CORK SISTERS**

A new Small Group at Hope, "Cork Sisters", will hold their first meeting on January 16, 2020 from 7:00 - 8:30PM at Sugar Magnolia Cafe & Emporium (219 S. White St., Wake Forest). We plan to meet bi-monthly on the third Thursdays of odd months. We will open with a devotional, taste some wines, enjoy Christian fellowship, and discuss future plans.

This group is open to all women 21 and older. The cost to attend this first meeting will be \$10, due at the meeting, to help cover the cost of wine and snacks. To reserve a spot, please contact Teri O'Neill at [terioneill@att.net](mailto:terioneill@att.net), (989) 878-0660, or Pam Jay at [pjay0826@gmail.com](mailto:pjay0826@gmail.com), 919-528-1011.

### **PRIMETIMER EVENT: WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**

December 14 at 12:00PM

This is a wonderful event honoring our service men and women who are buried at Oakwood Cemetery (608 Oakwood Avenue, Raleigh). It is a PrimerTimer event, but we would welcome anyone that is interested. It is a very special ceremony. After the ceremony, we will place wreaths on veteran's graves and then travel to the State Farmers Market for lunch. Once you arrive at the cemetery, follow the signs and parking is INSIDE the cemetery along the roads. There is no parking lot. We look forward to seeing many of you honoring our service men and women. Please RSVP to Conrad and Lynda Watson at [Watson.lynda@gmail.com](mailto:Watson.lynda@gmail.com).

### **ANNUAL PRIMETIMER CHRISTMAS PARTY**

December 15 at 2:00PM at Larry & Adrienne Mengel's home (1133 Bonny Doon Lane, Wake Forest). The potluck will officially start at 2:00PM, but guests are welcome to come after the 11:00AM service for those with a long drive home. Guests are asked to bring either food or drinks. Please RSVP to Larry Mengel at [Lmengel73@gmail.com](mailto:Lmengel73@gmail.com) or 919 376 6693.



# Welcome New Members!

Hope was privileged to welcome 35 people (23 adults, 12 children and youth) into our congregation this fall. If you see a new face, introduce yourself and welcome them to Hope!



Donna Correia



Steven Dieckhaus



William & Cynthia Fritz



Steve & Cheryl Hilla



Josh, Stephanie, Hadley, Henrik,  
Gracelynn, & Michael Hoopingarner



Andrew, Ashley, Harrison,  
and Anna Lane



David & Pam Larson



Willy, Vesa, and Ari Lewellen



Tanya, Noah, Grace, Hannah Newman



Rob, Debi, and Reese Ritter



Marion Schrimpe



Charles & Sally Valone



Ilsa Wachholz



Kevin Wilson and Shelby & Gracelyn  
Duncan

*Not pictured: Beth McKnight*





# Youth Ministry Events

Youth ministry at Hope Lutheran focuses on friendships, faith, and service. See below for all the exciting events in December. Remember, friends are always welcome!!

## 5-6 Grades

### Christmas Lock-In

**December 13 – 14 from 7:00PM until 8:00AM; cost is \$5**

Come join the fun as the group will play games, watch movies, eat pizza, and even complete another awesome service project for children who are spending the holidays in the hospital! Please sign up to bring 3+ gifts off of the approved gifts (link on the registration). The goal is to brighten their spirits and show them the love of Christ through our gifts – and to create a stronger sense of generosity and Christ-like love among our 5-6th graders. Learn more at [www.hopelutheranwf.org/youth](http://www.hopelutheranwf.org/youth).

### Confirmation

Advent classes on December 4 & 11. Confirmation class will meet starting at 6:30PM as usual, but on those two dates it will end at 7:00PM because the students will attend the Wednesday Advent Services from 7:00-8:00PM. Parents are invited to join for the worship services as well.

There will be no class on December 18-25 and January 1. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**Sunday School - Please note, there will be no Sunday School on December 29, 2019.** Stop by the Youth Center

from 9:45-10:45AM to play games, create artistic masterpieces, make friends, and strengthen your relationship with Jesus. It will be a fun combo of learning, playing, and creating! And don't forget to BARF (Bring a Real Friend)!



## 7-8 Grades

### Christmas Potluck Party

**December 7 from 6:30-8:00PM (free)**

Join us for a Christmas party complete with food, hot cocoa, games, and a white elephant gift exchange. The premise of a white elephant party is that you show up with one totally useless, wacky gift and go home with something equally useless and funny. The stranger, the better.

### Sunday School

Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45am in the Youth Center. You are invited to the Youth Center between church services for Sunday School! This month the group will cover "Choice and Consequence" and celebrate with a couple "Mystery Sundays". Be sure to come on December 22 and celebrate Christmas with the class. **Please note, there will be no Sunday School on December 29, 2019.**

### Pre-Worship Youth Group

**Wednesday Nights from 6:30-7:00PM (during Advent)**

Wednesday nights on December 4 & 11 from 6:30-7:00PM. Join us for some pre-Advent service fun in the youth center as we play games and eat snacks. Please note, there is no Youth Group on December 18-January 1 and will resume on Wednesday, January 8.

## High School Youth Sunday School

You are invited to the Youth Center Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45AM for Sunday School. This month, come discuss the story of Jesus' birth from a new perspective. **Please note, there will be no Sunday School on December 29, 2019.**

### Youth Group

**Sunday evenings in the Youth Center from 6:30-8:00PM**

These evenings are a variety of small group meeting times, large group games, service projects, and outings. There will be a special youth group complete with live music, hot cocoa, and the Live Nativity. **Please note, there will be no Youth Group on December 29 or January 5.**

### Annual White Elephant Christmas Party

**December 15 from 6:00-9:00PM; bring a gift**

Wear your ugliest Christmas sweater, warm up with a meal and hot cocoa, and of course play all of your favorite games. Bring a wrapped 'White Elephant' gift for the gift exchange. The premise of a white elephant gift is to get the weirdest, wackiest, gift under \$15 and exchange it around the group. You never know what you may end up taking home! Don't be a Grinch and join the fun!





## 7& 8 Grade Mission Trip, July 5-9

It's Mission Trip registration time here at Hope! What is the Mission Trip you ask? Great question! The Mission Trip happens for the 7 & 8 grade crew every summer! It's a 5 day, 4-night trip that puts youth to work in a different community with organizations who need the help. Show up to the informational meeting on Wednesday, December 11 at 8:00PM in the Youth Center. Cost is \$375.

## 2020 High School Servant Event, July 12-17

Serve alongside with other High School youth to rebuild homes that were destroyed/damaged during the hurricanes back in 2017 and 2018. Cost is \$425 and includes transportation, lodging, meals, and supplies. The Servant Event is a chance to get off of the couch, break out of your boring routine, and to use your hands and feet to do some serious work in service to others. For more information, show up to the informational meeting on Sunday, December 8 at 5:45PM in the Sanctuary.

**Register today for these great trips at [www.hopelutheranwf.org/youth](http://www.hopelutheranwf.org/youth).**

# Christmas Greetings from the Staff

*The staff of Hope Lutheran Church and Preschool express our thanks for the privilege of serving and wish everyone a blessed Christmas!*

### Church Staff

Pastor Puls, Pastor Upchurch,  
Pastor Lineberger, Pastor Wagner,  
Vicar Zach, Lead DCE Beth Agner,  
DCE Steve McCarthy,  
DCE Wesley Spottiswood, Amy Elder,  
Hilary Tew, Kelly Faris, Steve Ebberts,  
DeanNa Clelland, Barbara DeMarco,  
and Paul Hieter

### Music & Media Staff

Rob Varner, Kathy Vockeroth,  
Ray Sharpstene, Michael Case,  
and Paul Taylor

### Preschool Staff

Regina Fisher, Lisa Ackerman, Angela Baker, Heleen Bloomer, Stephanie Breemes, Deborah Burns, Denise Christopoulos, Ashley Clary, Sara Cutler, Amanda DeCilles, Lisa Dotson, Sheila Flanagan, Stephanie Fowler, Jean Futrell, Shari Gerhold, Nikki Hamilton, Lauren Jackson, Maria Markovitz, Christine Murphy, Gretchen O'Haire, Jannelle Pizzola, Stefanie Saba, Cindy Seitz, Fran Sowisdral, Kristen Winkle, Susan Young, Elizabeth Walker, and Suzanne Whiting

### Little Blessings Staff

Tonya Watt, Elizabeth Bulloss, Rebekah Carrillo, Karen Ragone, Jamie Terry, Tonya Watt, Kati Zick, Tracy Zwickis, Angeni Miller, Jennifer Disney, Julia Lowe, Kimberly Bailey, Kris Davis, Shannon DeCriscio, and Stephanie Castor

### Xplore Staff

Erin Ames, Elizabeth Bulloss, Rebekah Carrillo, Karen Ragone, Jamie Terry, Tonya Watt, Kati Zick, Tracy Zwickis, Angeni Miller, Jennifer Disney, Julia Lowe, Kimberly Bailey, Kris Davis, Shannon DeCriscio, and Stephanie Castor

### Nursery Staff

Ashley Allred, Briana Evans, Stephanie Lippens, Carly Turman, Elizabeth Bulloss, and Morica Viens-Grott



# Children's Ministry Events & News

## Children's Ministry Christmas Pageant – Away In A Mango

Mark your calendar for the pageant practices on December 8 from 3:00-5:00PM and December 15 from 1:00-4:30PM. You are able to purchase the music to practice at home on I tunes. This year, ensemble has the option to wear a red t-shirt or a Hawaiian -print shirt to get into the theme of "island Christmas, lost at sea." Please sign up at [www.hopelutheranwf.org/children](http://www.hopelutheranwf.org/children) so we know you are coming.

## Christmas Party for Grades 1-4

**December 8 from 5:00-7:00PM**

Come to Hope for a Christmas Party! The children will have crafts, dinner, games, caroling, and hot cocoa. Afterwards, stay for the Live Nativity at the back parking lot. **Also, PLEASE make sure your kids are dressed for the COLD weather.** There is no cost for this event...a gift to the wonderful 1-4 graders at Hope! Friends are welcome to come join the fun. Sign up today!

## Donuts and Devotions

Join the DCE's at Hope as we provide you with coffee, donuts, and a devotion to go! The next event is December 3 & 4 from 8:45-9:15AM.

## Calendar Items

- **NO Sunday school on December 29, 2019.** In order to give all families and teachers a much needed break, there will be no children or youth Sunday School classes.
- **Wednesday Night Alive is January 8 - February 19, 2020.** Mark your calendars for Wednesdays full of dinner, fun, and classes for children, youth, and adults.

## Children's Christmas Services

**December 24; 3:00, 5:00, & 7:00**

Christmas Eve at Hope Lutheran Church celebrates the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, with 6 different-styled services to meet your worship needs. You're invited to worship with Hope this Christmas Eve!

### **NEW CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE AT HOPE - 7PM Children's Service**

The Children's Services on Christmas Eve are designed for younger children and families and include lots of interaction, songs, and humor. Hope is adding a third service at 7:00PM that will be located in the Children's Center. Please note, this does not replace the 7:00PM family service in the Sanctuary.

## Xplore Track Out Camp

"Xplorers" spend your school vacation or track-out at a safe, local, Christ-centered camp this December. Open to all children in Kindergarten - 5th Grade.

Themes for December are:

- December 9-13: There's SNOW place like Xplore
- December 15-20: Unwrap the Season
- December 30 - January 3: The BEST of the BEST!

Visit [www.hopelutheranwf.org/xplore](http://www.hopelutheranwf.org/xplore) for pricing, to register, or learn about the themes. Questions? Contact Erin Ames, Family Program Director, at [eames@hopelutheranwf.org](mailto:eames@hopelutheranwf.org) or 919-229-0196.



# Hope Lutheran Preschool News



## Preschool Christmas Programs

The Preschool children will present their Christmas Program, "The Best Gift", to their families December 19 & 20 at 9:30AM.

## Fall 2020 Registration

**Registration for Fall 2020** will begin mid-January. We offer half day and full day options for ages 2 to 5. Registration is on a first come, first serve basis, for the following groups and dates:

- **Hope Members** – Tuesday, January 21 at 8:30AM. (This is the ONLY date to receive priority registration as a Church member.)
- **Currently Enrolled/Siblings** – Wednesday, January 22 at 8:30AM. (This is the ONLY date to receive priority registration as a currently enrolled student or sibling.)
- **Little Blessings** – Thursday, January 23 at 8:30AM. (This is the ONLY date to receive priority registration for Little Blessings.)
- **Community** – Tuesday, January 28 at 8:00AM.



## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Wednesday, December 18 at 7:00PM

This year's play, *Away In A Mango*, is set on a holiday cruise when the boat, the SS Mango, is caught in an unexpected storm and washed ashore on a deserted island. All aboard for a totally fresh, totally fun Christmas adventure for kids as they join the intrepid castaways of the SS Mango. After all, the story of the birth of Jesus is the story of lost people, unable to save themselves, being rescued by the long-awaited Savior!



## Happy Birthday!

Noah Neuman, 12/1  
 Reese Phillips, 12/1  
 Bob Plack, 12/1  
 Samantha Hardee, 12/2  
 Melissa van Rensburg, 12/2  
 Richard Wood Jr., 12/2  
 Kate Zwickis, 12/2  
 Beth Agner, 12/3  
 Lauren Edwards, 12/3  
 Jacob Gundry, 12/3  
 Jack Kannan, 12/3  
 Sue Seaman, 12/3  
 Jananne Spencer, 12/3  
 Harold Haun, 12/4  
 Frank Henley, 12/4  
 Laura Rom, 12/4  
 KariAnne Dills, 12/5  
 Nancy Hipsman, 12/5  
 Brodie O'Donnell, 12/5  
 Blake Burns, 12/6  
 Kirsten Kusy, 12/6  
 Christopher Long, 12/6  
 Charlie Melhinch, 12/6  
 Michael Cesar, 12/7  
 Shirley Thompson, 12/7  
 Janet Gagnon, 12/8  
 Grayson Lindeman, 12/8  
 Scarlett Neal, 12/8  
 Paige Shope, 12/8  
 Rob Ellison, 12/9  
 Connor Gilmore, 12/9  
 Shannon Janosko, 12/9

Dick Richardson, 12/9  
 Jessica Steinmiller, 12/9  
 Elaine Willers, 12/9  
 Hilda Parler, 12/10  
 Beverly Parmelee, 12/10  
 Tom Readling, 12/10  
 Brian Harris, 12/11  
 Graelynn Nunn, 12/11  
 Bill Wellnitz, 12/11  
 Linda Bennett, 12/12  
 Diane Parker, 12/12  
 Ephram Arner, 12/13  
 Wayne Bradley, 12/13  
 Sherri Hall, 12/13  
 Allen Kannan, 12/13  
 Jim Kosmar, 12/13  
 Barb Lance, 12/13  
 Conner Morris, 12/13  
 Jake Phetteplace, 12/13  
 Linda Wellnitz, 12/13  
 Mary Jane Haske, 12/14  
 Michelle Hempstead, 12/14  
 Sandee Kosmar, 12/14  
 Joshua Hutton, 12/15  
 Cindy Schaffer, 12/15  
 Bill Seaman, 12/15  
 Carter Staup, 12/15  
 Eric Swenson, 12/15  
 Sandra Turgeon, 12/15  
 Josh Hederick, 12/16  
 Taylor Rotosky, 12/16  
 Emily Schoolcraft, 12/16  
 Michael Giuffre, 12/17  
 Nadine Lewis, 12/17  
 Jeanette Swires, 12/17  
 Marshall Foster, 12/18

Harper O'Neill, 12/18  
 Shelly Rotosky, 12/18  
 Tony Wagner, 12/18  
 Brady Habers, 12/19  
 Sam Jones III, 12/19  
 Ryan Moran, 12/19  
 John Morrow, 12/19  
 Daniel Sanders, 12/19  
 Dillon Weidner, 12/19  
 Ben Wester, 12/19  
 Jerry Alvis, 12/20  
 Peyton Faris, 12/20  
 Spencer Jones, 12/20  
 Jim Markworth, 12/20  
 Kim Nugent, 12/20  
 Carol Angus, 12/21  
 Caydence Barker, 12/21  
 Lindsay Fisher, 12/21  
 Christine Laauwe, 12/21  
 Tara Martin, 12/21  
 Christine Murphy, 12/21  
 Bob Nielsen, 12/21  
 Bill Carter, 12/22  
 Sandra Lainhart, 12/22  
 Myla Lambert, 12/22  
 Jena Hoh, 12/23  
 Fran Najdecki, 12/23  
 Hannah Stroot, 12/24  
 Brynley Austin, 12/26  
 Erin Barker, 12/26  
 Lidia Cullen, 12/26  
 Auden Lindberg, 12/26  
 Dan Baker, 12/27  
 Luis Fondo, 12/27  
 Jerry Garlington, 12/27  
 Jeremy Moran, 12/27

Grace Niesel, 12/27  
 Sean Roy, 12/27  
 Matthew Maxwell, 12/28  
 John Pates, 12/28  
 Nick Rotosky, 12/28  
 Luke Tine, 12/28  
 Dylan Wilcox, 12/28  
 Bentley Agner, 12/29  
 Alex DiMartino, 12/29  
 Elizabeth Henley, 12/29  
 Bonnie Petersilge, 12/29  
 Lynn Bierlein, 12/30  
 Karen Jervah, 12/30  
 Brooke Koehler, 12/30  
 Jean Mannato, 12/30  
 Joe Skowronski, 12/30  
 Beth Webb, 12/30  
 Tyler Einzig, 12/31  
 Josh Ellis, 12/31  
 Carroll Hortman, 12/31  
 Isabelle Upchurch, 12/31



## Happy Anniversary!

Tim & Kathy Stroupe, 12/3  
 Rob & Kathy Bailey, 12/6  
 Mark & Sharon Gipner, 12/14  
 Chris & Cathy Smith, 12/17  
 Bill & Deborah Winiewicz, 12/17  
 David & Diane Lynn, 12/18  
 Richard & Beverly Eisenhuth, 12/21  
 Jeff & Beth Lasater, 12/21  
 Rhonda & Brett Parker, 12/21  
 Charles & Sally Valone, 12/22

Frank & Elizabeth Henley, 12/26  
 Ron & Barbara Beltran, 12/27  
 Michael & Brenda Kris, 12/28  
 Dick & Elaine Kruger, 12/28  
 Bill & Sue Seaman, 12/28  
 Frank & Eileen Dreier, 12/29  
 Darren & Tammy Dunne, 12/29  
 Stuart & Cathy Shless, 12/29  
 David & Kati Zick, 12/29  
 Joseph & Shelly Hummel, 12/31

## Prayer Requests from November 3

**Praise and Thanksgiving for...** Nicole Isaacson's birthday;

**Comfort for...** Beth Theiss and family at the death of Beth's father this week; Bill Jay and the family of Mere McCoy, life-long friend of Bill Jay, at her death this week; Ewa Allen and family as they mourn her father's death; the family of Gordon & Peggy Koehler's daughter-in-law, Donna, at the death of her father; **Strength and Healing for...** Don Ayscue, friend of Claudia VanHook, a cancer survivor struggling with unknown issues attacking his liver; Paula Reeves' son, Zach, as he continues to heal and regain his strength; Pastor Seaman recovering from surgery; 2 teens involved in a car accident last weekend; the Seger family; Will, uncle of Les Deming; Melanie Barker's friend, Victor, recovering from heart surgery; Brian, having recovering from hip surgery; Scott, friend of Rex & Becky Stokes, hospitalized after a stroke; **Guidance, Protection, and Safety for...** the Kurds in Syria; someone moving to Chattanooga, TN; an interview this week.

## Prayer Requests from November 10

**Praise and Thanksgiving for...** the birth of Samuel Lee Wilson to Jake and Lake Wilson; **Comfort for...** Rosie Miller and family at the death of her cousin, Roger Sting; Debra Vera and family at the death of her husband, Peter Vera; Bob Hendrickson and the family of Audrey Herden at her death this past week; Susan Roseman and family at the death of her mother, Barbara Vosse; **Strength and Healing for...** Olivia Gentry, daughter of Brian and Tracy Gentry, recovering from oral surgery; Peggy Martin, recovering from hip surgery; Shelby Jaundoo, who has thyroid cancer; Carol, friend of Dee Parsons, who was diagnosed with terminal cancer this week; Becky, daughter of Mike & Sylvia Dennen, hospitalized and pray for a good diagnosis; Michael Granata and family, friends of Todd Vecellio, at Michael's terminal diagnosis; Steven, that he has a full recovery from brain surgery; Kelly DiGiovanni's father, recovering from hip replacement surgery; A daughter who is struggling with life's issues; Beckie Randall's friend, Aleta Rice Hansen, diagnosed with cancer; Lorelai's ear and eyes; **Guidance, Protection, and Safety for...** The Hope Lutheran Women's Retreat at the beach; The Via De Cristo at Camp Agape.

## Prayer Requests from November 17

**Praise and Thanksgiving for...** for Myla Lambert's health, as a recent scan shows her brain tumor seems to have stopped growing and she'll be able to stop chemo; a daughter's healing from an eating disorder; **Comfort for...** the family of Marilyn Leverich, sister-in-law of Dore' Bergfors, at Marilyn's sudden death; the family of Carol Andesson at her death; Janice, mourning the loss of her husband; **Strength and**

**Healing for...** Tammy Scherrer, who suffered a severe broken leg; Larry Allen, son-in-law of Shannon Janosko, hospitalized; Arthur Wagner, Pastor's brother recovering from knee replacement surgery; Ken Johnson, husband of Julie Johnson, receiving cancer treatments; Hazel Grace, hospitalized in the NICU; Mark, friend of Barbara Bradley, facing open-heart surgery; Virginia Lacom, friend of Barb Bennett, in rehab after complications from surgery; Billy Edwards, recovering from heart surgery; James Burns, family of Kris Burns, recovering from surgery; friend of the Noon family whose cancer has returned; Shelby Jaundoo and Hedy Kopfler with medical problems; John, diagnosed with Leukemia; Lorrie Bregni, friend of Marilyn Marr, struggling with alcohol; John Varner, uncle of Rob Varner, diagnosed with lung cancer; Pastor Lew's sister, Mollie Shanly, hospitalized with a high fever; Terry Brill, brother-in-law of Rita Kaess, in failing health; Rick Scheyd, friend of Karen Jervah, as he begins chemotherapy; Jim Markworth's friend, Tony Menillo, diagnosed with Leukemia; the Barker's father-in-law; Vickie Herring's friend, Virtie Baldwin, recovering from a mastectomy; **Guidance, Protection, and Safety for...** relatives throughout the country; a daughter who has left home with her boyfriend.

## Prayer Requests from November 24

**Praise and Thanksgiving for...** Pippa Abrams home from hospital; Lifelong friends; **Comfort for...** Those who are lonely during this season; Family of Jeanette Farrington at her passing; Brunkhorst Family, at the passing of Marilyn Brunkhorst; Judie Statdlander and family, at the passing of her husband Bob; **Strength and Healing for...** Sandi's daughter, Cheryl, having surgery on Tuesday; Betty, hospitalized and diagnosed with cancer; Dillon McDaniel in UNC Children's Hospital recovering from 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns; Todd, having surgery for kidney stone removal after Thanksgiving holiday; Teresa Portner, recovering from surgery; Sue Foster in ICU at Granville Medical Center; Bob, suffering from congestive heart failure; Dick Hummel, friend diagnosed with leukemia; Tammy, recovering from surgery; Bob, recovering from a heart attack; John, experiencing symptoms of a heart attack; Larry Cale, recovering from bone marrow transplant; Terry, dealing with new medical issues; Cheryle, recovering from a shoulder replacement; A friend's cancer surgery Monday; A cousin having complications after the birth of a baby; Neve, battling cancer; **Guidance, Protection, and Safety for...** Angel Tree families and those buying and delivering gifts; All those traveling.



**Ministry Leadership Team:** Eric Arner (Chairperson), David Critchley (Vice-Chairperson), Sarah Crawford (Secretary), Megan Baldwin, Andy Barrett, Mike Dennen, Michelle Hellmann, Bill Jay, Rob Niesel, Maurice Samuels, Jill Schaefer, and Emily Smathers.

**Hope Lutheran Staff:**

Rev. Wayne Puls.....**Senior Pastor**  
 Rev. Lew Upchurch.....**Associate Pastor**  
 Beth Agner.....**Lead DCE**  
 Zach Sarrault.....**Vicar**  
 Steve McCarthy.....**DCE**  
 Wesley Spottiswood.....**DCE**  
 Rev. Larry R. Lineberger.....**Assistant to the Pastor**  
 Rev. Preston Wagner.....**Pastor Emeritus**  
 Amy Elder.....**Communications Manager**  
 Hilary Tew.....**Operations Manager**  
 Kelly Faris .....**Administrative Assistant**  
 Steve Ebberts.....**Facilities Manager**  
 DeanNa Clelland.....**Receptionist/Office Assistant**  
 Paul Hieter.....**Evening Receptionist/Office Asst.**  
 Rob Varner.....**Organist and Choir Director**  
 Kathy Vockeroth.....**Handbell Choir Director**  
 Joe Walters, Michael Case, Paul Taylor, & Ray Sharpstene.....**Praise Team**  
 Regina Fisher.....**Preschool Director**  
 Lisa Ackerman, Angela Baker, Heleen Bloomer, Stephanie Breemes, Deborah Burns, Denise Christopoulos, Ashley Clary, Sara Cutler, Amanda DeCilles, Lisa Dotson, Sheila Flanagan, Stephanie Fowler, Jean Futrell, Shari Gerhold, Nikki Hamilton, Lauren Jackson, Maria Markovitz, Christine Murphy, Gretchen O'Haire, Jannelle Pizzola, Stefanie Saba, Cindy Seitz, Fran Sowisdral, Kristen Winkle, Susan Young, Elizabeth Walker, & Suzanne Whiting.....**Preschool Staff**  
 Erin Ames.....**Family Program Director**  
 Tara Cook, Kelly Friend, Natasha Hoyle, Amanda Glodic, Kim Shope, & David Swan.....**Xplore Staff**  
 Elizabeth Bulloss, Rebekah Carrillo, Karen Ragone, Jamie Terry, Tonya Watt, Kati Zick, Tracy Zwickis, Angeni Miller, Jennifer Disney, Julia Lowe, Kimberly Bailey, Kris Davis, Shannon DeCriscio, and Stephanie Castor .....**Little Blessings Staff**  
 Ashley Allred, Briana Evans, Stephanie Lippens, Carly Turman, Elizabeth Bulloss & Morica Viens-Groff.....**Nursery Attendants**



Hope Lutheran Church & Preschool  
 3525 Rogers Road  
 Wake Forest, NC 27587  
 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED