

# Words of Hope - Weekly Announcements



Office Hours this week: Monday—Friday 8:15 a.m.—3:45 p.m.  
215-946-3467 info@hopeLCS.org

Activity pages for young children are available from an usher.



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

thank  
you

Thank you for packing shoebox gifts in 2017!

Hope's church congregation and school contributed 82 shoeboxes and Hope's Drop-Off Center processed a total of 653 shoeboxes.

Special thanks to the following volunteers who picked up empty shoeboxes and cartons, greeted donors and packed shoeboxes:

Janet Anderson, Sandy Chorba, Enola Cook, Julia Hutchins, Tom Jeske, Ann McAtee, Julia McAtee, Doreen Norris, Maryann Puls, Ed Rodkey, Yvonne Roof, Betty Scheich, Sandy Scott, Kristy Urban and Janice White.

An extra special thank you to Bill Fuller who transported 45 full cartons to the Collection Center in Yardley.

**“LOVE CAME DOWN”**,  
Advent Devotional booklets  
**are available** in the narthex for your use  
and to share with family and friends  
during the season of Advent.



In **LOVE CAME DOWN** we see how the Heavenly Father spared nothing—not even His own Son—to work out our salvation.

Though we had rebelled in our sins and spurned God and His Commandments, He chose us—not for exclusion, but redemption.

The Father's love sought us out in our perilous condition and, in His infinite mercy, bridged the divide to our isolation through Jesus—the one Mediator between God and Man.

**Voters Assembly—Hope Members age 18+  
Sunday, December 3 - Time will be announced**

Agenda includes election of officers &  
adopting the vision statement

Contact: Tom Jeske thomas.jeske.6@gmail.com 215-630-5517



## Opportunities to Brighten Someone's Christmas!

Our trees in the narthex and school lobby are trimmed with bells and stars.

The **bells** picture various kinds of livestock in support of Heifer International.

Since 1944 this organization has worked in the areas of livestock and agriculture to develop programs that alleviate hunger and poverty in various countries around the world.

Your monetary donation (of any amount) will go toward the purchase of livestock for food and as a source of income for an impoverished family: cows that give milk; sheep that produce wool; beehives that earn money through the sale of honey and beeswax; and goats that provide milk. You may designate which animal you would like your donation to sponsor by placing the ornament in an envelope and putting it in the offering plate, or give it directly to the office

The trees are also trimmed with small paper **stars & stockings**.

You will see various items needed by adults at the Family Service Homeless Shelter at Five Points.

These gifts should be left unwrapped.

**Deadline for all items is  
Sunday, December 17.**



 *Coming in*

**Scrip Orders** are due next on  
Monday, **December 4**, at 9 a.m.

**It's a great time to order  
for Christmas shopping or gifts!**

Contact: Sabrina Cusimano  
215-860-2686 [scusimano@hopeLCS.org](mailto:scusimano@hopeLCS.org)



**EVENING BIBLE STUDY EVERY TUESDAY 7:00 P.M.**

Join us as we journey together through God's Word and  
build/strengthen friendships with other people of faith.

We are studying the **Gospel of Matthew**.  
Contact Enola Cook 609-464-2366 or [rev3-20@hotmail.com](mailto:rev3-20@hotmail.com)



**Youth Group Activity Night & Bible Study**

Every Wednesday night from 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Invite your friends! Grades 5-10  
Lynn Holmes 215-932-8383 [holmeslynnd@gmail.com](mailto:holmeslynnd@gmail.com)

**YOUTH  
GROUP**

The **Parent-Teacher League** of Hope Lutheran School  
will be holding their annual *Christmas Shoppe*  
during the first week of December.



Members of Hope are invited to support the PTL by shopping  
anytime between the hours of 8:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m.  
on **Thursday & Friday, December 7 & 8.**

**Mothers of Hope invites ALL moms**

**Saturday, December 9**, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.  
Free Christian Restorative Yoga Class  
Breakfast and Childcare Provided

Contact: Miriam Mokry [miriamrmokry@gmail.com](mailto:miriamrmokry@gmail.com) 215-943-2032  
Check us out on Facebook  
<https://www.facebook.com/Mothers-of-Hope-178313082735942/>



*December...* 

The next **Amish Market Mission** food pack-out  
for local homeless and needy will be at Hope on  
**Saturday, December 9**, from 4:30-5:30 p.m.



**Volunteers are always needed.** Contact: Brenda Ruths @ 215-486-7760.

*Service of Lessons & Carols*

**Sunday, December 10**  
7 p.m. in the sanctuary

Featuring the Adult Voice Choir  
and Handbell Choir,  
with small groups and congregational carol singing  
All are invited to a reception afterward.

*Lessons &  
Carols*



**Share the talents that God has given you by  
helping with some tasks around the building.**



Please call Bill Durnin (267)393-2297. Email [Trustees@hopeLCS.org](mailto:Trustees@hopeLCS.org)  
**Our next scheduled work day is December 16 from 9 a.m.—Noon.**

The **Lunch Bunch** (ages 18+) will gather  
on Tuesday, **December 19**, at 1 p.m. at *Garden of Eatin'*.  
Join us to share good food & fellowship!



Please RSVP to **Barb Somerfield @ 215-757-9429** by Monday, Dec. 18.

**WORSHIP - CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY**

Christmas Eve Morning      Sunday Morning Worship—1 service at 9:30 a.m.  
Christmas Eve Evening      5:00 p.m.    8:00 p.m.    11:00 p.m.  
Christmas Day Morning      10:00 a.m.

**JOIN US! INVITE FAMILY & FRIENDS!**



*Poinsettia Dedication Form*  
*for*  
*Christmas Eve & Christmas Morning Services*



Would you like to dedicate a poinsettia  
in honor of or in memory of a loved one?

The cost is \$13 for each poinsettia.  
Orders need to be submitted by December 17.

Please fill out the dedication form below,  
with your cash or check (made payable to Hope Lutheran Church)  
and place in the collection plate or drop off at the office.

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

or

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Thoughts on Stewardship for December*

Christmas is coming. It is a joyous time of feasting. The Church feasts upon the Word of God in sermon, song, and sacrament.

We hear the proclamation of the message of the angels: "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10-11).

We mingle our voices with theirs as we sing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased" (Luke 2:14)!

We receive the proclaimed Savior, Christ the Lord, not wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in manger, but wrapped in bread and wine placed into our mouths for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

We feast in great joy indeed because of this great blessing from our Lord and God.

God's people in ancient Israel also feasted with great joy. The Lord showered His abundant blessing on His people. And He commanded them to feast upon it (Deut. 16). The people were to go to the place appointed, where the Lord would make His name dwell, and give offerings, each man as he was able, according to the blessing of the Lord that He had given them (Deut. 16:10, 15, 17).

And there the Lord would bless them with joy as they feasted upon what the Lord had provided. They ate of the choice parts of their offerings. They enjoyed the company of all the people of God as they together heard His promises of blessing, sang of His bountiful goodness, and partook of what He gave.

We feast on the Word who became flesh to dwell among us, not just during Christmas, but throughout all the year.

We feast not just on the salvation He has wrought for us in His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, but we feast also on all the temporal blessings that God gives out of His fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in us.

We enjoy the rich bounty that God provides, not only in Word and Sacrament, but also in house and home, property and income, family and friends.

Let us then, as did our brothers in the faith from ancient Israel, give as we are able, according to the blessing of the Lord our God that He has given us.

Let us, like them, give generously of the first fruits of our income, which He gives, so that all may know and enjoy the salvation He gives and the joy we have in the Savior born in the city of David, who is Christ the Lord.

