

**DECEMBER EVENTS**

- December 3**  
Handel's Messiah, 11 a.m.
- December 9-10**  
A Night in Bethlehem, 1-4:30 p.m.
- December 16**  
Siberian Solstice, 7 p.m.
- December 24**  
DIT Christmas program, 10 a.m. (one service)
- Christmas Eve Services, 4 p.m., 7 p.m., 11 p.m.
- December 25**  
Christmas Day Service, 10 a.m.
- December 31**  
Lessons and Carols, 10 a.m. (one service)

**LOOKING AHEAD**

- February 14**  
Ash Wednesday
- April 1**  
Easter Sunday



Hope is a  
Stephen Ministry  
Congregation.

**CELEBRATE JESUS' BIRTH ON CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY**

Hope will be offering three Christmas Eve services:

- 4 p.m. – Family Service with Praise Team
- 7 p.m.–Traditional Service with brass and special music
- 11 p.m. – Traditional Service with Adult Choir



Communion and Candlelight will be at all services. Note that, as Christmas Eve is a Sunday, our morning worship this day will include one service at 10:00 a.m.

A special Christmas Day service will be held on Christmas morning at 10 a.m.

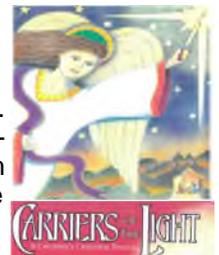
**AN INVITATION TO HOPE**

Research has found that most people without a church home are most interested in worship at Christmas. The biggest factor determining whether they will attend is an invitation. Who might you invite to hear the great news of Christmas? Think of who you can invite to join you as we celebrate as a community on Christmas Eve. High-quality imprinted invitations are available each week in Advent to help in your inviting. Time and time again people comment how great our Christmas Eve services are and this is your chance to share that with others.



**CARRIERS OF THE LIGHT**

There will be one service the morning of Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, at 10:00 a.m. It will feature our Children's Christmas Program, *Carriers of the Light*. This will be a traditional program including Biblical text, traditional Christmas carols and the story of Jesus' birth told through our child actors. Bring a friend!

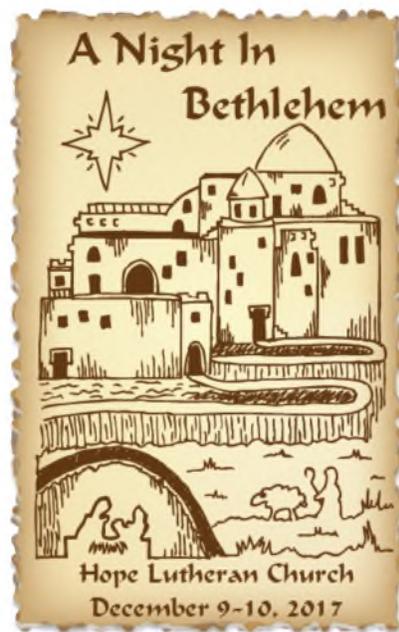


**SIBERIAN SOLSTICE**

This talented musical group from northwest Ohio will return to Hope on **Sat. December 16 at 7:00 pm.** This exciting and inspirational Christmas show features music as originally performed by the nationally acclaimed "Trans-Siberian Orchestra." The music format of traditional Christmas music and other classical pieces with electronic keyboards, drums and guitars is enjoyed by all age groups. "SIBERIAN SOLSTICE" has eight members on stage to accurately reproduce the TSO style and will perform approximately 90 minutes.



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**"A Night in Bethlehem"**  
December 9-10, 2017 1-4:30 p.m.

Come between 1 and 4:30 p.m., and experience first century Bethlehem. Take in the sights, smells and sounds of the bustling marketplace, complete with authentic shops staffed with artisans and live animals. And, did you hear the exciting news? A baby has been born!

**Come and receive the greatest gift of all ... Jesus Christ!**  
It's free. No strings attached.

**HOPE**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Hope Lutheran Church  
2201 Secor Road  
(corner of Secor & Bancroft)  
419/536-8383  
www.hopetoledo.net



Parking available on Indian Road and Bancroft Street. Handicapped parking available in the Indian Road parking lot. Additional parking with shuttle service is available at Ottawa Hills Elementary School, 3602 Indian Road.

Sponsored by: Ohio National Financial Services, 1200 Kingsley, 10230 Main, Caputo Agency 419-837-5588

**SUNDAY WORSHIP:** 9 a.m. Contemporary Service | 10:10 a.m. Spiritual Development | 11 a.m. Traditional Service

**CONTACT:** office@hopetoledo.net | 419.536.8383 | www.hopetoledo.net | 2201 Secor Rd., Toledo, OH 43606

## ADVENT OPEN HOUSE



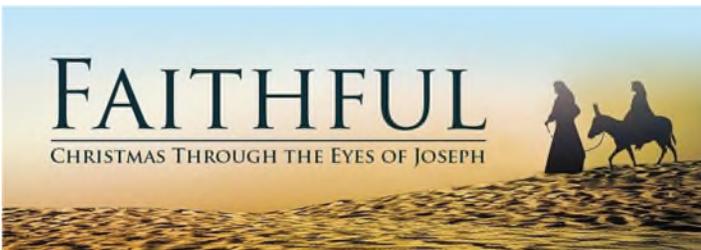
### Advent Open House

Members and friends of Hope are invited by Pastor Kevin and Janice to an advent open house at their home on Sunday, December 17 from 3-7 p.m. This open house is a great opportunity to gather in fellowship as we prepare for Christmas. Their house is located at 5535 Radcliffe in Sylvania. Maps will be available at Hope or you can email Pastor Kevin (pastorkevin@hopetoledo.net) if you would like directions.

## ADVENT SERMON SERIES

We're not that different from Joseph. True, we may not be part of a story that will be remembered for all time, but like Joseph, we encounter circumstances that we'd never choose for ourselves. At times, it can be tempting just to walk away, but Joseph provides us a great example of humbly obeying God even when we don't understand, faithfully moving forward in the strength that God provides.

- 12/3 Whose Child is This?
- 12/10 Raising a Child Not Your Own
- 12/17 The Journey to Bethlehem



## FAITHFUL GIVING IN ADVENT

As we explore the Christmas Story through the eyes of Joseph, we will be faithfully collecting items to give away to others each week during Advent. There will be a chance in worship each week to bring items up front as part of our Advent journey.

November 26—collected **\$10 Kroger and \$5 McDonald's food cards** to give to Salem Lutheran

December 3—**250 pairs of children's hats and gloves** for Old Orchard Elementary, Salem Lutheran and Redeemer Lutheran

December 10—**500 pairs of new socks (all varieties, both adult and child)** for MLK Kitchen for the Poor

December 17—**500 Food items (juice boxes of 100% juice; cans of soup, tuna fish and spaghetti; individual-size boxes of cereal)** for Backpacks of Hope at Old Orchard Elementary



## HANDEL'S MESSIAH

On December 3, the adult choir will present the Christmas portion of Handel's *Messiah* during the 11:00 service. This will include narration



and will be accompanied by a chamber ensemble from the Toledo Symphony Orchestra.

## BLESSING SUNDAY A SUCCESS

Pastor Kevin led our worship service on Blessing Sunday, Nov. 5, as we celebrated All Saints Day and the many blessings that God has given us. Over the past few weeks our emphasis has been "Experiencing the JOY of Generosity." We now have the opportunity to Share the Blessings God has given us by completing an Estimate of Giving Card for 2018.

After worship on Nov. 5, Larson Hall was completely filled with 133 friends and members who gathered for the celebration luncheon. Overall, it was an uplifting day of fellowship and interaction. Sincere thanks to ALL of the volunteers whose collective efforts made the day a success!

For all who have turned in your 2018 Giving Card, thank you very much. Based on the preliminary results, Hope is extremely blessed. If you have not yet returned your 2018 Giving Card, please do so as soon as possible. Your generosity will change lives, including yours!

### Experiencing the JOY of Generosity



## ENDOWMENT APPEAL

In May, the Endowment Fund launched a campaign to raise \$15,000 in contributions by May 2018. We've got a little over five months left to go and have already raised more than \$4,500! During this holiday season, while you think about your giving to the church, whether for next year or long term, please consider making a contribution to the Endowment Fund. Gifts to the Endowment Fund are a great way to support the future of Hope and can be made in a variety of ways. From cash contributions, to gifts of appreciated stock, to creating a legacy via a bequest, each offers unique opportunities to make a difference while potentially receiving a tax benefit. For instance, a gift of appreciated stock may allow you to deduct the market value of the securities without paying capital gains tax on the appreciation, subject to tax regulations. By making such a gift, you escape the capital gains tax on the appreciation, and you have the benefit of a charitable deduction on your income tax of the current market value of the stock.

## 2017 YEAR-END GIFTS

As you plan your year-end giving, please note that the office will not be open on Sunday, December 31. The last day the office will be open in 2017 to receive your final year end gifts is Friday, December 29 until 4:00 p.m. Any contributions postmarked by the 31<sup>st</sup> will be counted towards 2017 giving.