

The Messenger November



2020

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
1901 MIDDLEBOROUGH RD,
ESSEX MD 21221



Thanksgiving Eve Worship

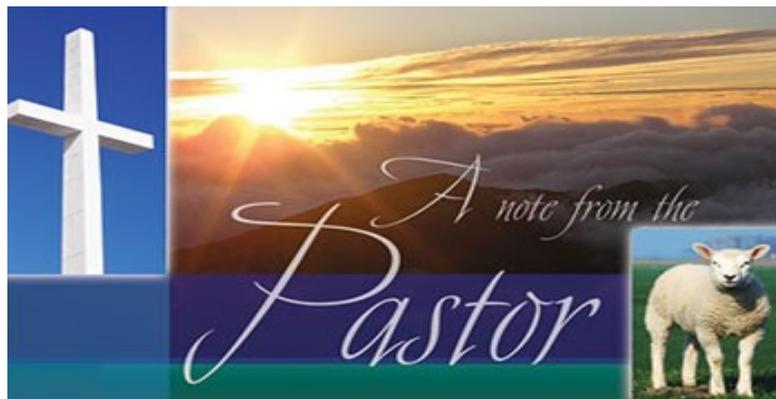
Wednesday, November 26, 2020

7:00 PM in the Sanctuary

Join us as we give thanks to God for all our
blessings!

Greetings in the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, one God. Amen.

Last Sunday, we observed and celebrated the church's tradition of Reformation Sunday, the day that commemorates the anniversary of Martin Luther's alleged posting of his 95 theses on the doors of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany on Oct. 31, 1517. From this time forward, the Church has been evolving in a type of reforming ever since. This year marked 503 years of God's Church reforming itself time and



again in order to meet the needs of its people in so many ways, just as the Protestant movement did in its early years. Never before, at least in my memory, has the church had to re-invent itself to such an overwhelming degree in order to remain viable to its people—to keep alive its connection to its members, and to continue to provide care and nurturing as needed. We Lutherans like a good festival such as we had on our 500th anniversary, but this year is a year unlike any other, so we weren't be able to enjoy the day with a great deal of pomp and circumstance.

When I was in my late teens, I worked for a few months in a non-Lutheran church who, to my surprise, acknowledged Reformation Sunday. Even in that United Methodist church, we sang a few Luther-written hymns and discussed the Protestant Reformation. While much of the conversation revolved around John and Charles Wesley and their early years in the Church of England, I learned that John was inspired by Martin Luther, particularly Luther's preface to Romans. It was in this reading that John came to realize that his good works could not save him, but that he could find rest in God's grace for his salvation. This led him to the first true peace he had ever felt, and it gave him the assurance of his salvation he had so desperately sought.

Through the years I learned of the many other reformers and the trials that they went through in resisting some of the teachings of other church bodies. Later in seminary I was steeped in church history and learned many, many other reforms that developed through the centuries, and of course, much more about Luther. Tidbits such as Luther not being as eager to leave the Catholic Church as his younger cohort, Philip Melancthon was. If Luther was the central mouthpiece of the Reformation, then Melancthon was most assuredly its engineer. Truth is, Melancthon was the one who in his writings gives us the date "Oct. 31, 1517", not Luther.

What we continue to see over time, is how complex the Reformation has been and continues to be. Year after year, we continue to gather together at the table on Sunday mornings, but like many families, we don't agree on everything. Churches all over the world continue to celebrate this day, but there is a growing concern amongst some church bodies, that wonders if this celebration actually inhibits the unity of the Church due to our considerable differences. I want the Church to be united. I would love for our belief in Jesus to be the one unifier that brings us together in advancing the mission of the church. I am a realist who gets that churches all have different shades of theology—but my prayer is that these many differences can somehow, some way, be set aside for the sake of spreading the message of the Gospel.

Which brings me back to the re-invention of the church today. What did Reformation Sunday look like this year for many of our congregations all over this globe? Some churches continued to livestream while others were just getting started, or still thinking about getting started. Others sat in cars in church parking lots receiving the message through an unused FM band on their car radios. Others, like us, were back to worshipping in their sanctuaries again, wearing masks, social distancing in the pews. And continued to be in shutdown mode, waiting for the virus antidote, and for their doors to close for good. The latter is the one thing that I dread the most, and yet in today's cultural climate, it remains a grave possibility.

While I am a realist, I also try to remain an optimist. Just imagine that the Holy Spirit could be calling us to a new Reformation. To lead us to re-form the Church again in an entirely new way that allows us to gather around the same table and express the same love for Jesus Christ, whether remotely or in-person. Ways that unite us to serve our neighbor. Ways that don't challenge or compete with one another but instead join together to be stronger and more whole.

Try to imagine that it is time for the Church to reform again and address serious issues that face us all in this time of uncertainty—issues like relevancy, apathy, and lack of connection to the Body of Christ. When we are used to an abundant harvest, it can be shocking to experience scarcity. It is wise to remember that God is the source of all things. I believe that God is moving the Church now to have a new Reformation of great upheaval so that the church will again rise and thrive.

I have not taken my sackcloth out of mothballs, I am no great prophet such as Elijah or Isaiah, but I do believe that the Church will again prosper! Maybe I feel this way because we just celebrated Reformation Sunday. But in this moment of reflection, I sense the breezes of change and Reformation pressing the Church and its people to ponder its present and its future, and not look backward to its past history so much. Instead, I want us to become excited once again about its future. I am not at all afraid of what the future holds. I am not afraid of a new Reformation to bring freshness and revitalization. In fact, I pray for it to come and for the fire of our first reformers to reignite the Church once more.

As in 1517, now is a time for courage and truth, and a renewed commitment to the Gospel—the God's honest truth! In fact, it's beyond time. The Church now needs to catch up!

May God's Blessings, peace and good health be with you all.

Pastor Meheret



Pray FOR Healing

PRAYER CONCERNS: Edgar Amos, Jr., Gail Anuszewski, Connie Baker, Sue & Jim Baucom, Dennis & Gail Berry, Mary Bodenschatz, Debbie Bryant, Debbie Button, Margaret Cain, Debbie Cannon, Blanche Cardarelli, Sharyl Clark, Shirley Cosgrove, Ed Cornelius, Patrick J. Curran, Pearlina & Chuck DeWitt, Freddie Ditmar, Lynn Eckles, Lois Farber, Cassandra Fleckenstein, Bobbi Floyd, Matthew Floyd, Marina Ford, Sara Garrett & Family, Chris Genco, Mike Genco, Pierre Gibbons, Cassidy Gore, Daniel Hanke, Sharon Harrison, Juliana Hasson, Brooklyn Hays, Beverly Hoffman, Karen Hoffman, Karen Holzopfel, Scott Hower, Leondra Jefferson, Jack Kincaid, Leonard Kincaid, Michelle Kincaid, Mickey Koontz, Joshua Kraeger, Sharon LaBelle, Leah Lane, Harriett Lloyd, Michael McCoy, Ellen McKenna, Brian Miller, Jim Nemec, Laurie Nemec, Frank Neukam, Hannah Noack, Harvey Nockowitz's Family & Friends, Terry Novak, Rick O'Dea, Pat Owens, Francesca Prado, Mike Porter, Inez Rasinski, Cass Rayman, Cliff Rodney, Eddis Sabol's Family & Friends, Jeff Sanders, Connie Sanders, Jeanine Schenning, Debbie Schmidt, The Schepers Family, Barbara Shelly, Kevin Shields,

Vivian Smith, John Stiemly, Lucille Watson, Richard Wrobel, Susan Yelton,

Our Congregation, and our ministries.

All First Responders and all active and reserve members of our armed forces.

Sympathy is extended to and prayers surround the family of: Beulah Craig (Jackie Eversley's mom), who died in Christ on Friday, October 23, 2020, James Bunk (Debbie Cannon's daughter, Katie Miles's dad), who died in Christ on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 and Fred Eszes (Eric Eszes's dad), who died in Christ on Wednesday, October 28, 2020.

Please notify our church office if you want to add or delete any names from the Prayer List.

Our hope in God
is the very thing
that will keep us
from being
swayed by the
shifting winds of
this world.



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. To register, call (410) 686-7587 or email [hopesecondary@outlook.com](mailto:hopesecretary@outlook.com).

Monday Morning Pastor's Class

meets Mondays 10:00 AM-11:30 AM in the church office. No Bible Study in the Church Office until further notice.

Wednesday Night Bible Study

Zoom meetings on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM. The theme for this Fall season is "Love for One Another" from Augsburg Adult Bible Study Series. Please Join Us!

Saturday Morning Breakfast Bible Study

meets 9:00 AM-10:00 AM every Saturday. We will be studying "Love for One Another", same as the Wednesday Bible Study Group from Augsburg Adult Bible Studies, by Susie Gamelin.

*****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 and more information. Pastor Meheret, meheretyon@gmail.com, Cell: (240) 413 7515**

Bible Study



Worship Scriptures For



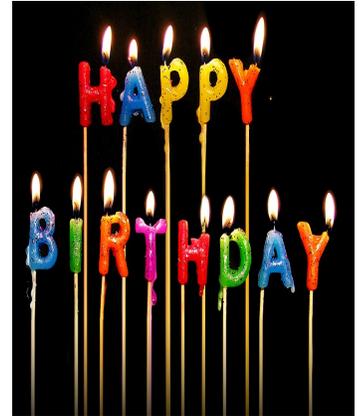
<p>November 1 All Saints' Sunday</p>	<p>Revelation 7:9-17 <i>The multitudes of Heaven worship the Lamb</i> Psalm 34:1-10, 22 <i>Fear the Lord, you saints of the Lord, for those who fear the Lord lack nothing</i> 1 John 3:1-3 <i>We are God's children</i> Matthew 5:1-12 <i>Blessed are the poor in spirit</i></p>
<p>November 8</p>	<p>Amos 5:18-24 <i>Let justice roll down like waters</i> Psalm 70 <i>You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry.</i> 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 <i>The promise of the resurrection</i> Matthew 25:1-13 <i>The story of the wise and foolish bridesmaids</i></p>
<p>November 15</p>	<p>Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 <i>The day of the Lord</i> Psalm 90:1-12 <i>So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.</i> 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 <i>Be alert for the day of the Lord</i> Matthew 25:14-30 <i>The story of the slaves entrusted with talents</i></p>
<p>November 22 Christ the King Sunday</p>	<p>Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 <i>God will shepherd Israel</i> Psalm 95:1-7a <i>We are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand</i> Ephesians 1:15-23 <i>The reign of Christ</i> Matthew 25:31-46 <i>The coming of the Son of Man; the separation of sheep and goats</i></p>
<p>November 29</p>	<p>Isaiah 64:1-9 <i>Prayer that God would come with power and compassion</i> Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 <i>Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved</i> 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 <i>Gifts of grace sustain those who wait for the end</i> Mark 13:24-37 <i>The sudden coming of the Son of Man</i></p>





NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Lynda Frueh	18	Collin Peluso
3	Steven Kahl	21	Adam Talbott
5	Jacob Bender	23	Robert Williams
6	Bill Faust	24	Barbara Chambers
6	Layana Delguidice	24	Neveah Delguidice
8	Reiva Robinson	25	Claudia Reynolds
11	Ryan O'Donnell	28	Donna Smith
11	Doris Schmidt	29	Denise McLaughlin
11	Elizabeth Talbott	30	John Hoffman
12	Bob Leap		
15	Peggy Talbott		



Blessings
on your
birthday



Happy Birthday To You

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



All Stars Learning Center

Enrollment is now open for the fall at
great prices!

Accepting students ages 3-12.

Available daily from 6:30AM-6:00PM.

Offering assistance to children with
virtual learning!

Give Ms. T a call today at 410-686-6060.



1901 Middleborough Rd, Essex, MD 21221

All Stars Learning Center Update: We currently have 13 school age children who are virtual learning at the Center, supervised by Ms. Sherrie. Ms. Talesha is currently teaching the 6 Pre-k children while we continue to search for a qualified Pre-K teacher. Ms. Vermell is assisting both classrooms as needed. Thanks to all the staff for their continued support during these challenging times.



On All Saints Sunday, November 1st, we remember that the Church of Jesus Christ is much bigger than we think, because it is composed not only of all believers now living on earth, but also all those who have gone before us in the faith. On this Sunday we remember all those who have joined the Church triumphant during the past 12 months.

Members, family and friends of Hope Church who will be remembered this year on All Saints Sunday include:



Evelyn Blazek

Robert Eck

Nelson Eugene Austen

Amber Wallace

Leroy "Jim" Ogle

Lois Lorene Deckelman

Steven Stanley Schweitzer

Charlotte A. Schweitzer

Emil Roger

Sandy Marie Stillwell-Greenstone

Louise Amoss

Beulah Craig

James Bunk

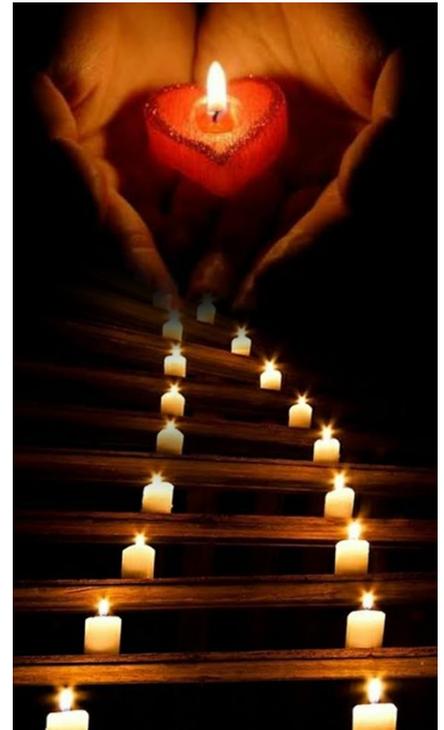
Fred Eszes

Sharon Ann Remmey-Price

Francis Ritzer

John Eszes

Ellen Brown





FOOD FOR THOUGHT UPDATE

Food for Thought, a ministry addressing food insecurity in our Middleborough Elementary School community, is now serving 10 students identified by the school counselor as being able to benefit from this support. We are presently working with Food for Thought Baltimore County to provide a \$50 Food Lion gift card for each of these students each month. Whether to return to our weekly backpacks of nutritious foods or continue with gift cards will be reevaluated in January.

We are grateful to be able to tap remaining grant funds received previously from Lutheran Home and Hospital Foundation and the ELCA Hunger Program. Also, we truly appreciate donations over the past three months given by the following.

The Glory of God by:

Trudy Grauer, Deloris Phillips, Eric Eszes, Mary Emge, Peggy Talbott, Carol Ogle, Jackie and Colin Eversley, Carolee, Rick, and Ricky Calo, and Bob and Joan Schweitzer.

Thank you, all!





We will be preparing and distributing our traditional Thanksgiving Hope Baskets again this year. We are looking for donations of the items shown below. Monetary donations for the food baskets and gifts cards for the turkey's may be made by using pew envelope and clearly marking it for Thanksgiving Hope Basket and placing it in the offering plate.

If you know of a family that is in need for Thanksgiving, please let us know by using the yellow cards and indicate that there is a message on the back of the card. Include your phone number and someone will contact you for more information.

If you have any questions, please see Linda Moler (443-730-3576) or Sandy Cincinnati (443-324-8355).

Sauerkraut

Green Beans

Instant Potatoes

Sweet Potatoes/Yams

Cranberry Sauce

Peas

Bread / Rolls

Pies

Stuffing Mix

Turkey Gravy

Corn

Stewardship Campaign

Our 2020 stewardship campaign is underway. Please refer to my letter in this month's Messenger which explains how your time, talent, and contributions help us continue our ministries at Hope Lutheran Church. As we prepare for our December congregational meeting on December 1st which presents our 2020 budget, we use your pledge commitments to estimate our income for the year. Your financial pledges are critical to ensure we can continue to serve our community and spread God's word. Commitment cards are in the narthex or you can complete the cut-off included in the Messenger. We request that pledges be submitted as soon as able.

Blessings,

Joan Schweitzer, Financial Recording Secretary



Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before Him with joyful songs.

Give thanks to Him and praise His name.

For the LORD is good and His love endures forever;
His faithfulness continues through all generations.

Psalm 100:2, 4-5



**Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service
November 27, 2019, 7 PM**



Sunday, November 22nd is:

Chris the
King 
S U N D A Y

Duty Schedule for: November 2020

10:00	Nov 1 All Saints Day	Nov 8	Nov 15	Nov22	Nov 29
Assist	John Kelly	Bob Schweitzer	Brandi Miner	Joan Schweitzer	Robin Palmer
Lector	Joan Schweitzer	Marge Carl	John Kelly	Thea Coker	Sharyn Kahl
Ushers	Brandi Miner Peggy Talbott	Carol Ogle Carolee Carlo	Sandy Cincinnati Denise McLaughlin	Thea Melton Donna Smith	Linda Moler John Kelly
Counters	Bob Schweitzer Linda Moler	Colan Kahl Bob Schweitzer	Linda Moler Joan Schweitzer	Donna Smith S/S Kahl	Donna Smith Joan Schweitzer
Flowers	Price S Kahl	Schweitzer Faust	Kahl Kahl	Open	Kahl McLaughlin



Christmas Poinsettias



*In Memory
Or
In Honor*

or To the Glory of God



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Time to order red poinsettias to help beautify our altar for Christmas. The cost is \$10.00 each and the ordering deadline is Sunday Nov 29th. Please fill in the information below and place along with your payment in the offering plate or drop off at the office. Make checks payable to Hope Lutheran Church. You may pickup your poinsettias after the late service on Christmas Eve.

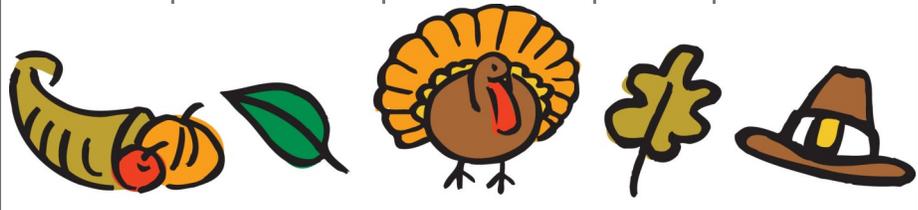
NAME: _____

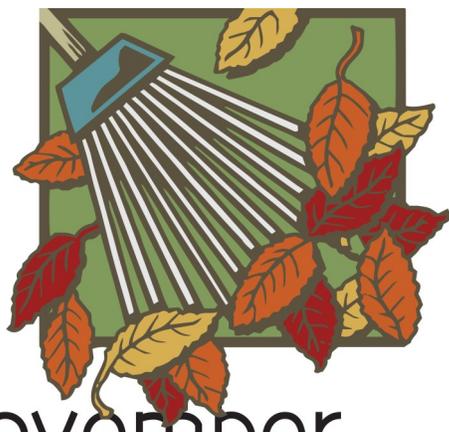
No. of Poinsettias: _____ **Total \$** _____

Date Paid: _____ **Cash:** _____ **Check No.** _____

IN MEMORY OF/ IN HONOR OF/ or TO THE GLORY OF GOD
(circle one please)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00 AM Worship In the sanctuary 	2 9:00 AM Quilters 	3	4 4:00 PM All Stars Learning Center Chapel via Zoom 7:00 PM Bible Study via Zoom Streets of Hope 	5 7:00 PM Choir Practice TBA 	6	7 9:00 AM Breakfast Bible Discussion via Zoom 
8 10:00 AM Worship In the sanctuary	9 9:00 AM Quilters 	10	11 4:00 PM All Stars Learning Center Chapel via Zoom 7:00 PM Bible Study via Zoom 	12 7:00 PM Choir Practice TBA 	13	14 9:00 AM Breakfast Bible Discussion via Zoom 
15 10:00 AM Worship In the sanctuary	16 9:00 AM Quilters 	17	18 4:00 PM All Stars Learning Center Chapel via Zoom 7:00 PM Bible Study via Zoom 	19 7:00 PM Choir Practice TBA 	20	21 9:00 AM Breakfast Bible Discussion via Zoom 10:00 AM Baptism 2:00 PM Wedding 
22 10:00 AM Worship In the sanctuary 	23 9:00 AM Quilters 7:00 PM Council Meeting 	24	25 4:00 PM All Stars Learning Center Chapel via Zoom 7:00 PM Thanks- giving Eve Service	26 	27	28 9:00 AM Breakfast Bible Discussion via Zoom 
29 10:00 AM Worship In the sanctuary	30 9:00 AM Quilters 	 SO MANY BLESSINGS				



2020



November

STEWARDSHIP



Time ♦ Talent ♦ Treasure

Biblical stewardship is one of the primary ways God calls us to live our lives. God created everything. God owns everything. God commands us to give generously—of our time, our special gifts and talents and our resources. Stewardship is NOT just about finances. There is more to Hope

Lutheran Church than just what you see on Sunday morning! Think about the ministries Hope supports: outreach to those in need (Food for Thought, Streets of Hope, Esther Fund), worship, youth, property, fellowship just to name a few. All these things are planned and prepared by leadership and staff who are deeply committed to our becoming who it is God is calling us to be. The ministries and mission of our church take place because of the time, talents and financial gifts our members and friends choose to offer.

The decision to give of ourselves is a choice, but as followers of Jesus, it really isn't an option. We are encouraged to give something out of thanksgiving for what God has done and provided and as a sign of faithfulness and commitment to be a part of the good things that God is continuing to do in our community, country and world. We have been given God's most precious gift, his son, Jesus Christ, and we are invited to respond to what God has given us with generosity of our own. There is a joy to be found in practicing generosity and it begins with a simple step of commitment to contribute—of our time, of our special talents, and of our finances.

Listed separately are ways in which you can give of your time and talent. Please consider how you might be able to share your gifts in promoting these special ministries. Obviously, your financial contributions are enabling this house of God to continue these wonderful ministries. To that end we are asking you to pray about how you want to answer the challenge to grow and we invite you to consider making a pledge to give in a regular and disciplined way. If you have not pledged in the past, perhaps you will consider doing so for this coming year. If you have pledged previously, perhaps you will consider taking a step up by increasing your financial gift for the coming year. You may pledge a weekly gift or a monthly gift. Your pledges are confidential. We have our gift of giving cards at the church. You may pick one up at our services or request one be sent to you by calling the church office. Or you can fill in the sheet below and mail it to Joan Schweitzer c/o Hope Lutheran Church using the church address. We use the pledges as one source to estimate our income for the next year.

Thank you and God's Blessings,
Joan Schweitzer, Financial Recording Secretary

My Commitment To My Church

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

In grateful recognition that all my time, treasure, and ability come from God, I gladly join with others in support of Christ's church.

Per week _____ Per month _____

\$ _____ for local ministries, including worship, education, pastoral service, church care and upkeep, and the world of outreach of the church.

Signature: _____

STEWARDSHIP



Time ♦ Talent ♦ Treasure

Stewardship is utilizing and managing all resources God provides for the glory of God and the betterment of His creation. The central essence of stewardship is managing everything God brings into our life in a manner that honors God and impacts eternity.

We have many Ministries here at Hope. If you are interested in serving with any of these Ministries, please circle one or more below.

- ♦ Outreach Ministries: Food for Thought, Thanksgiving and Christmas Basket, Streets of Hope Men's shelter
- ♦ Worship Ministries: Assisting Ministry, Lector, Communion Server, Usher, Choir, Counting Offerings, Sunday School/Children Ministry
- ♦ Youth Ministry
- ♦ Confirmation Class
- ♦ Congregation Council
- ♦ Stewardship Committee
- ♦ Property Committee
- ♦ Fellowship Ministry/Coffee Hour

If you have a talent or skill that you would like to offer in service to God and God's people through Hope, please indicate in the space below. Some examples include, but are not limited to: general repairs, computers, website design, photography, baking, knitting, painting, drawing, singing, playing an instrument, event planning, gardening, etc.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

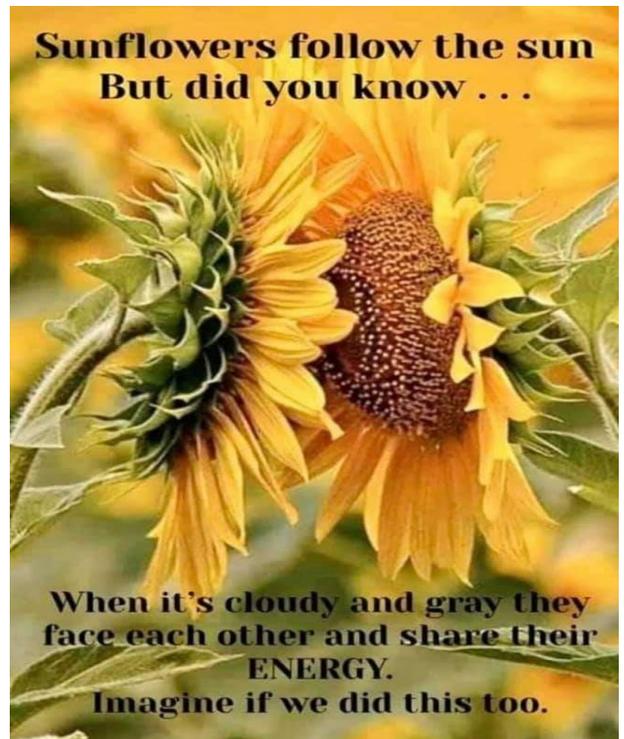
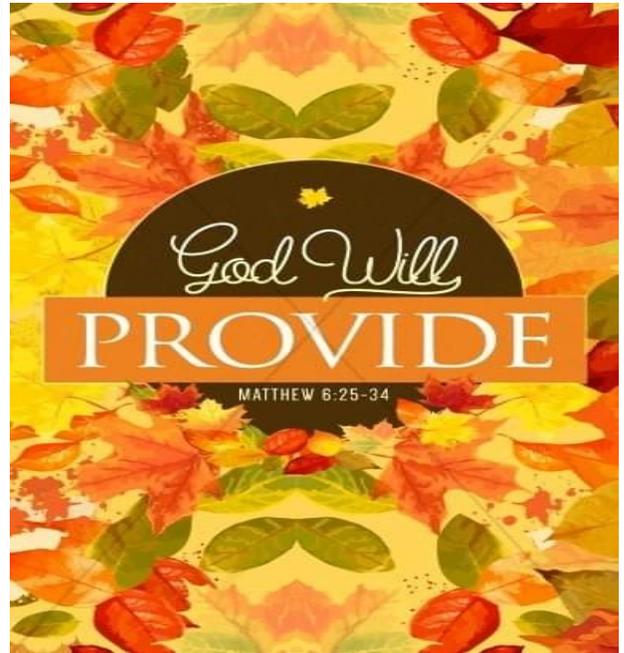


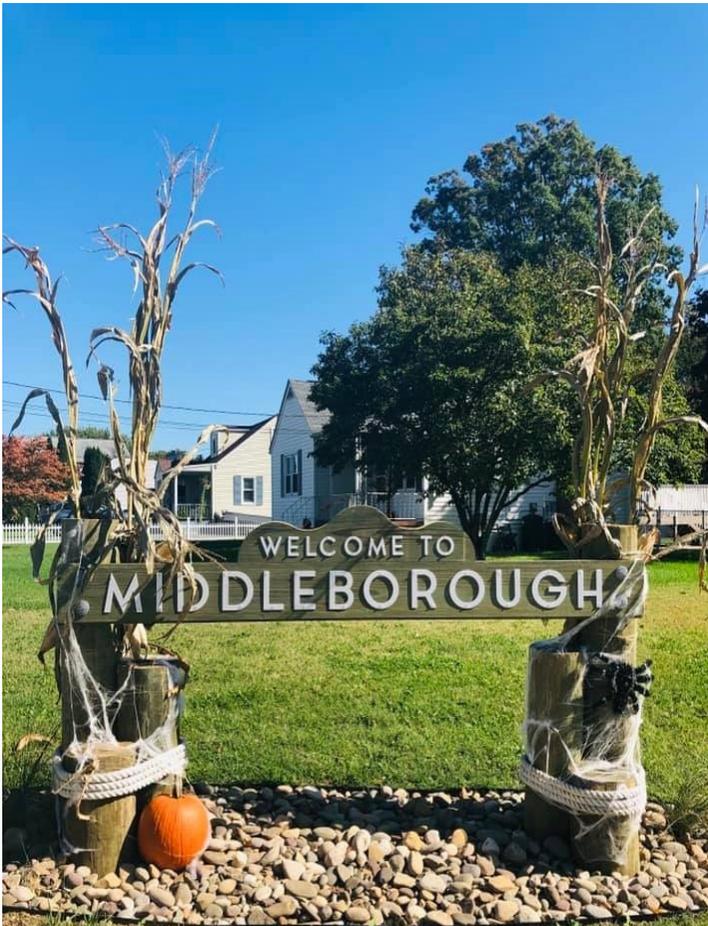
As the sky breaks into a beautiful sunrise, may God open the windows of heaven to shower you with His blessings.

LIFE'S STORMS
PROVE THE
STRENGTH
OF OUR
ANCHOR



**DON'T GIVE UP ON THIS YEAR.
KEEP FIGHTING FOR THE GOOD.
KEEP SHOWING UP.
KEEP LOVING.
KEEP GIVING BACK.
KEEP BEING KIND.
KEEP BEING BRAVE.
KEEP CARING.
KEEP TRYING NEW THINGS.
KEEP SHOWING GRACE.
KEEP ON.
THIS WORLD NEEDS YOU
TO BELIEVE IN THE GOOD.**





A message from Freddy
Cooper:

Big thanks for the help and
donations from the community
members for helping my eagle
project. I was so happy to
complete the sign for the
community with the support
from Troop 372.

Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church

Our Staff

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E-Mail: craeversley11@hotmail.com

Secretary: **Shirley Edmonston** • Office 410-686-7587
E-Mail: hopelsecretary@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

Sharyn Kahl 410-574-3060

Trish Hays 410-687-3411

Nicole Eck 443-271-4014

Denise McLaughlin 410-686-0199

Lynne Lake—Youth Leader 443-854-0708

Jack Crout—Youth President



Happy Thanksgiving Blessings

Giving thanks always
for all things unto God

Ephesians 5:20
KJV

Wishing You and Your
Family a Beautiful
and Blessed Day !

via LoveThisPic.com



Articles for the December Messenger must be submitted to
church secretary by Tuesday November 17, 2020. Thank you.