

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH, 2024

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR WOODS

Dear Friends,

The Apostle John begins his Gospel with the following verse: “In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the word was God.” In this verse “the word” refers to two things. One is the words God spoke to create the universe: “Let there be light, sun, moon etc.” The other is God’s word made flesh and blood—Jesus Christ—Who came to save mankind. In either case it is correct to say that God created and redeemed mankind through the power of His Word.

Martin Luther once said that the word of God was only authority the church had and that any church which compromised or abandoned the word in its teaching and preaching was not a Christian church. Tragically, we have come to a time in America when mainline Christian denominations have abandoned or compromised God’s word in their teaching and preaching. In an effort to become more “relevant” or “culture-friendly” they describe their anti-Biblical doctrines as “progressive” and Biblical doctrines as “outdated” and “irrelevant.”

But God will not be mocked and He has drawn large numbers of members of these churches away and led them to churches where God’s word is preached and taught. Huge numbers of members of mainline denominations are leaving their churches and joining independent evangelical churches like Parkside, Christ Community Church, Crossways Churches where the teachings of the Bible are honored.

I thank God that Hope Lutheran Church is part of a synod—the Missouri Synod—where the Word of God is also the word of the church.

Pastor Woods

Sunday Services

9 AM Adult Bible Study
10 AM Worship Service
1st & 3rd Sundays—
communion



Connect with us!
hlcaurora.org

456 S. Chillicothe Road
Aurora, OH 44202
Ph: 330.562.9660

MARCH SERVER'S LIST



If you cannot serve on your assigned date, please find a replacement and let Dawn know of that change.

Thank you for your service.

Date	Music	Worship Assistant	Acolyte	Greeters	Reader	Communion	Sermon/ PP
March 3	Lori	Greg	CJ	Marge & Glenda	Greg	Becky	Dawn
March 10	Pearl	None	Deacon	Ruth & Ruth	Lori	none	Dawn
March 17	Lori	Becky	Beckett	Karol & Carol	Becky	Karen	Dawn
March 24 Palm Sunday	Pearl	None	Andrew	Larry & Chris	Andy	none	Dawn
March 28 <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	Lori	Chris	None	Fred & Sheila	Chris	Karen	Dawn
March 29 <i>Good Friday</i>	Lori	None	None	Becky	Karol	none	Dan
March 31 Easter	Lori	Paul	Hank	Jim & Cecelia	Paul	Karen	Dawn

THE THIRD @ THREE

Sunday, March 17
3 PM

Paul & Mary Ellen Huber
Organizers of Helping Haitians in Need



Among the turmoil that rages in Haiti, there is a small light. Small as it may be, it is a light of hope; hope for the children. HHH, Helping Haitians in Need, is a nonprofit organization. It focuses on a small, rural area that is home to an orphanage and school.

Join us on March 17 to hear about the wonderful projects the non-profit organization has implemented in Haiti. Learn about the gardens that now provide food for children. It really is amazing!

“The story of Easter is the story of God’s wonderful window of divine surprise.”—Carl Knudsen



Jacob B.	4
Robert P.	7
Linda C.	8
Mary O.	14
Jill B.	19
Deacon B.	25
Alison S.	27
Dan C.	31

MARCH

Notice:

Due to Holy Week, the monthly birthday celebration for March and April will be celebrated together on April 14 after worship service.



Do you have an event you are planning at Hope? Please be sure to

let Dawn know details of your event.

She will add it onto the new master calendar located in the hallway between the sanctuary and the fellowship hall.

The welcome tablecloth and sign are located on top of the filing cabinets in the office and are available for all church events.

LILIES FOR EASTER

Each year Hope's Easter celebration is enhanced by fragrant lilies that decorate the sanctuary. This year members and friends can again purchase a lily to help beautify our worship space during this time of joy and hope.

Sign up on the welcome table outside the sanctuary to purchase a lily in an 8 inch pot for \$12. Lilies can be taken home after the Easter worship service. Make checks payable to Hope.

See Becky B. or email her at becksbell@roadrunner.com with any questions.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School in March meets on March 10th and 24th during the worship service. On March 10th children are asked to come directly to Sunday school to begin making Lenten pretzels. A special craft will be made with all children on Easter (March 31st) **during the sermon only**. Children will then return to their families for a blessing during communion.

Confirmation class will meet on March 10th and March 14th this month in the conference room following worship until 11:45 a.m.

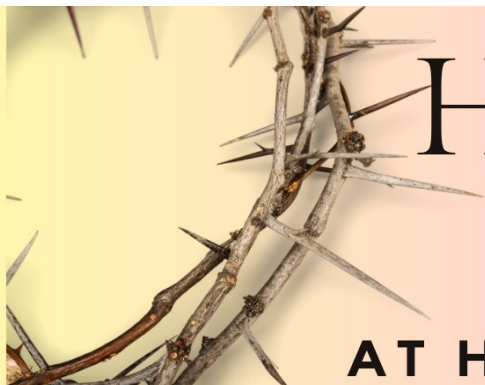


delicious!

Recently, the youngest Sunday School class studied the parable of the Prodigal Son. The children helped make a pile of fruit and vegetable peels to begin the lesson.

They learned that while one son stayed with his father to work the farm, the other son used his share of money to experience a new life. Once he spent all of his money and had nothing to even buy food the scraps of food fed to the pigs looked

The children learned that like the prodigal son who returned, God loves us always – even when we have to say we're sorry.



HOLY WEEK & EASTER

AT HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Palm Sunday, March 24th

10:00 a.m. worship service with communion.
Sunday School during worship.

Maundy Thursday, March 28th

7:00 p.m. worship service with communion.

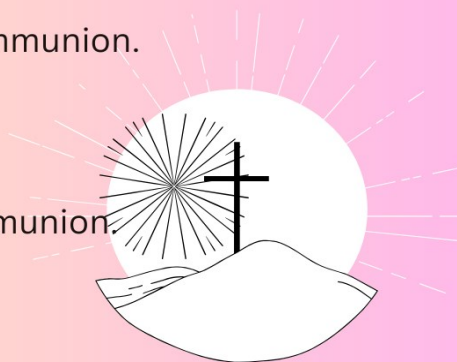
Good Friday, March 29th

7:00 p.m. worship service.

Easter Sunday, March 31st

10:00 a.m. worship service with communion.
Craft for children during the sermon only.

Hope Lutheran Church
456 S. Chillicothe Rd.
Aurora, OH 44202
hlcaurora.org



MOST LOVED HYMNS OF ALL TIME

1. Amazing Grace – *John Newton, England (1779)*
2. How Great Thou Art – *Carl Gustav Boberg, Sweden (1885)*
3. Holy, Holy, Holy – *Reginald Heiber, England (1826)*
4. It is Well – *Horacio Spafford, written in the Atlantic Ocean (1873)*
5. Great Is Thy Faithfulness – *Thomas Chisholm, Kansas, USA (1923)*
6. Praise To the Lord The Almighty – *Joachim Neander, Germany (1665)*
7. Be Thou My Vision – *Dallán Forgaill, Ireland (6th Century)*
8. All Creatures Of our God and King – *St. Francis of Assisi, Italy (1225)*
9. All Hail The Power of Jesus Name – *Edward Perronet, England (1779)*
10. Blessed Assurance – *Fanny Crosby, New York City, USA (1873)*

“Easter egg hunts are proof that your kids can find things when they really want to.” – Unknown

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

Lenten devotionals and suppers will continue on Sunday evenings through March 17th. A devotion begins at 5:00 p.m. followed by a light supper.

Sign up sheets to attend each week are available on the welcome table.

March 3—"Sub & Sandwich Night" with two sides of your choice

March 10—"Pasta Night" with salad, rolls/butter

March 17—"Pot LUCK"



PRETZEL SUNDAY



Save the Date: Did you know pretzels are considered a symbol of repentance?

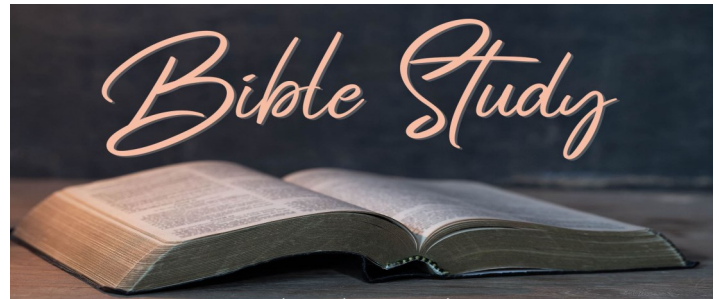
Join us to enjoy a warm, freshly baked Lenten pretzel made by the children of the church after worship on **March 10th**.

You won't want to miss out on this long-standing traditional treat at Hope!



Do you have a prayer request on your mind and heart? Prayer requests can be emailed to Hope's church secretary, Dawn, at dghlc456@gmail.com.

A prayer list is distributed to the congregation each Sunday after worship and prayers remain on the list for one month.



Join the **In the Word bi-weekly Saturday study** and an examination of the Book of Genesis. The study takes place at church and new members are welcome at any time.

February meeting dates are 3/9 and 3/23

9:15 coffee and fellowship; 9:30 small group study; 10:30 Q&A with the pastor.

For more information, please email Karen W. at karenwoods@yahoo.com

The **Men's Tuesday morning Bible Study** meets at church on Tuesday mornings at 8:45 a.m. except for the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The group is currently studying the Book of Revelation.

The **Sunday morning adult Bible Study** meets at 9:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall and is continuing to study the Gospel of Matthew.

CHURCH COUNCIL

The next church council meeting will be on Thursday, April 11th at 7 p.m.

If you have any agenda items for the council to discuss, please see Dan C. or email him at dcolemansr@windstream.net



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



Hope had a wonderful time honoring the young and not-as-young members and friends with February birthdays recently at a celebration coffee hour after church.

The combined birthday celebration for March and April will be held after worship on April 14.

BOARD OF PROPERTY

During the upcoming summer months the fellowship hall and some other areas of the church will receive a fresh coat of paint. The board is seeking two volunteers to work with the nursery school to select the new colors. This is a short term assignment and the volunteers will not be responsible for the hiring of the painting contactor just the color selection

Please contact Dave B if you are interested in helping with this project.



OPERATION GRATITUDE



Hope had an overwhelming heart of generosity toward American service members in February! Many thanks to all who donated chap stick, made monetary donations, and signed thank you cards for troops.

These items will be distributed this spring to service members all over the world through Operation Gratitude.

PRE SCHOOL



Hope recently provided an outreach opportunity to Hope Christian Nursery School by providing a date night out! Parents

participated in a raffle to win a local dinner and a movie.

Thanks to Dawn G. for organizing this fun connection with the preschool.

EASTER MINISTRY



A big thank you to all who are participating in the congregation wide illustration that will be on display for Easter. Many of the 36 individual parts of the larger picture have been returned so they can be assembled.

If you haven't done so yet, please return your colored picture to the basket on the welcome table by March 17th.

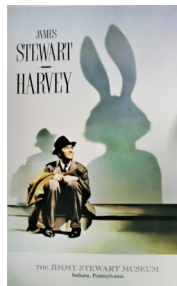
We can't wait to see how this mosaic comes together!

- How do you make Easter easier? *Replace the "t" with an "i."*
- What comes at the end of Easter? *The letter "r"*
- How can you make Easter shopping go faster? *Use the eggs-press lane!*

THIRD @ THREE

We had a great turn out to hear Felicia Zavarella Stadelman discuss the art of Michelangelo.

Did you know that the Pieta, in St. Peter's Basilica is the only signed statue by Michelangelo?



Put it on your calendar for April 21 when we have a special guest speaker. Pastor Woods will speak on the movie Harvey and it's religious connections.

Don't worry if you've never seen the movie. We will be watching Harvey at 3 (yes, there will be popcorn!) and then Pastor will speak about Harvey, the 6' 3 1/2" rabbit that can only be seen by Elwood.

Are you following Hope? Church news, updates, and reminders are posted several times a week on Hope's website as well as on Hope's Facebook, Instagram, and X (Twitter) accounts. Be sure to check these resources often to stay up to date.

Website: hlcaurora.org

Facebook: Hope Lutheran Church in Aurora, Ohio

Instagram: [hopelutheranchurchauroraohio](https://www.instagram.com/hopelutheranchurchauroraohio)

Twitter: @HLCAurora

"Easter is the soul's first taste of spring." ~ Richelle E. Goodrich