



We wait with JOY!



*"The desert shall rejoice and blossom!"* Isaiah 35:1

TODAY we highlight OFFERING.

Bring forth your **OFFERING PLEDGE CARDS** for dedication and blessing during service.

Our Assisting Ministers will be installed and blessed during today's worship service.

Welcome to Word of HOPE  
Lutheran Church, ELCA !

*We are Saved by God's Grace  
and  
Called to Share the Love of Jesus with ALL.*

Please Visit our WELCOME Center...

**DECEMBER 11, 2016**

*For Whom Shall We Pray*

**For those in need:**

Julie McEwen, Richard Saunders, Dion Parker,  
Karl Knapp (Floro), Natalie Anderson,  
Makenzie Webb, Walter & Patricia Finger  
(Brown),

Margaret and Michael DeCarlo (Campbell),  
Corrie Fosson (Whitehead), Carl Bowen (Black),  
Steve DeWitte, John Ege

**For those serving our country:**

Hunter Schultz, Matthew (Sorrell)

**In a special way:**

St. Martha's Episcopal Church, as we share our  
church home and look forward to sharing  
Pr. Sandy Stone.

**Do you have a need for Prayer?**

Let us know of your concern. Contact the Care  
Team by calling Colleen Black 859-223-3877

Or call the Word of Hope office

859-272-8515

Or email: [wordofhopeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:wordofhopeoffice@gmail.com)

**Holy Communion** is God's gift to us and we're happy to share it with you. There are gluten free wafers available. White grape juice is available in the inner ring of the tray of individual cups if you prefer. We invite all who trust in Jesus' presence in the bread and wine to participate in this holy meal.



**If you are a VISITOR, please sign our GUEST BOOK in the Welcome Center.**

We want to get to know you better and help you get to know us! We have a warm, family-like congregation and we love welcoming others to it. Please write down the best way to get in touch with you.

**THANKS AGAIN FOR JOINING US AND PLEASE COME AGAIN SOON!**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## TODAY

**FAIR TRADE FAIR IS TODAY, December 11**, from 9:15-11:15. Lucia's Boutique are here again offering their beautiful fair trade items for sale. Bring your Christmas lists. Fair trade items provide artisans in poverty areas of the world livable wages to help support their families.

**WORSHIP PLANNING MEETING IS TODAY!!!** December 11, after worship. We will be putting together our Lessons and Carols celebration for January 1 as well as other worship tasks. Everyone is welcome.

**GETHEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH INVITES YOU TO B.L.E.S.S TONIGHT**, December 11, at 6pm. An inspiring celebration of Christmas praises which includes Pr. Leah Schade playing harp and her daughter as special guest preacher. Join us for worship and refreshment.

## ONGOING

**CARE AND CONVERSATION** Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. Share our thoughts and show concern for each other and the world around us. You are invited to join the group any Wednesday. All are welcome.

**PRaise BAND** will **NOT** practice this week or next. December 22 is our next practice, a joint practice with St. Martha's at 7pm. A final practice for Christmas service will be joint with St. Martha's on December 24 at 10 am. All are welcome!

## COMING UP!!

**ADVENT LESSON AND CAROLS** with St. Martha's on December 18<sup>th</sup> at 11 am. Afterwards, we will be joining them for their annual Christmas Celebration Feast in Fellowship Hall.

**HANGING OF THE GREENS** Wednesday, December 21 at 6:00 PM, we will be decorating the church in our annual "Hanging of the Greens". Bring a Christmas goody to share and we will enjoy them while we decorate for our Christmas festivities.

## REMEMBER

**POINSETTIAS to ADORN OUR SANCTUARY FOR CHRISTMAS.** Please see the sheets in the entryway to order your poinsettia in honor of loved ones and to help decorate our worship area during the Christmas season. Next Sunday will be last time to put in your request. \$12 per plant per name. THANKS!!

**THE GIVING TREE** is set up in the entryway. Items will be going to Natalie's Sisters. Take a tag and bring back the unwrapped items and put it in the box next to the tree. We will be collecting items through to Christmas.

**Psalm 82:3 MINISTRIES.** During Advent, as part of our offering each Sunday, we are taking up a **NOISY CAN COLLECTION.** If you would like to hear more about this ministry, please see Jen Polnisch.

## **WEEK AT A GLANCE December 11-18**

### TODAY

9:30 am Worship **THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

9:15-11:15 am **FAIR TRADE FAIR**

10:30 am **WORSHIP PLANNING MEETING**

11:00 am St. Martha's Service

12:00 pm 6:00 pm Al Anon

7:30 pm AA

### Monday

7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Tuesday

### Wednesday

7:00 pm Care and Conversation

7:00 pm Praise Team Practice

### Thursday

### Friday

6:30-9:30 pm

### Saturday

### Next Sunday

9:30 am Abbreviated Communion Service

11:00 am **ADVENT LESSON AND CAROLS with St. Martha's**

12:00 pm **St. Martha's hosts annual Christmas Celebration Feast for Word of Hope**

### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

**December 18 NEXT WEEK** 11 am Worship with St. Martha's-Advent Lessons & Carols. St. Martha's hosting their traditional Christmas Celebration Feast (Note: For those preferring it, there will be an abbreviated 9:30 am communion service).

**December 21 6 pm Hanging of the GREENS.**

**December 24 CHRISTMAS EVE: 7pm SHARED WORSHIP SERVICE WITH ST. MARTHA'S**

(Note: No worship service on Sunday, Dec. 25th Christmas day....celebrate with family and friends)

**JANUARY 1, 2017** 9:30 am Worship: Christmas Lessons & Carols.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO TURN IN ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS BY TUESDAY AT NOON VIA EMAIL, WRITING, OR PHONE CALL.**

### **CONTACT US!**

**Office Hours: Tues., Thurs. 9am-3pm**

**Office phone: 859-272-8515**

**Email: [wordofhopeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:wordofhopeoffice@gmail.com)**

**Pastor Jim Merkel 859-494-2595**

**WEBSITE: [www.wordofhopechurch.com](http://www.wordofhopechurch.com)**

**FACEBOOK: "Word of Hope Lutheran Church"**