

LOOKING AHEAD

Palm Sunday

March 29th
9am & 11am

Maundy Thursday

April 2nd, 6:30pm

Good Friday

April 3rd
12:00pm & 6:30pm

Easter Sunday

April 5th
Worship 9am & 11am
Breakfast 10am

Vacation Bible School

June 22nd—26th
9am—12:15pm



Grounding ourselves in the good news this Lent

Lent was originally a season for those new to Christianity to learn and prepare for their baptism on Easter. During that time, they would study what was central to Christianity. Lent is still a time to get back to our roots and examine what is at the center of Jesus' life and ministry: radical welcome, love for neighbor, care for the vulnerable, nourishment for the hungry, nonviolence in the face of injustice. At the heart of Jesus' teachings, we find liberation, love, mercy, and grace – all of which are meant to be good news. Really good news. It is joyful – like fine wine saved for celebration. It grows like a mustard seed and smells like perfume poured from an alabaster jar. It tasted like bread passed endlessly through a hungry crowd. It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy. This Lent, join us as we let the teachings of Jesus lead us forward. May the good news inspire us to take action in a world desperate to hear, see, and taste what is good.

The Good News is...

- March 1 ...great love for God and neighbor Luke 7:36-50, Matt 25:35-40
- March 8 ... together, the impossible is possible Mark 6:32-44, Eph 3:20-21
- March 15 ...protection and care for the vulnerable Matt 19:13-15, Deut 24:17-22
- March 22 ...rooted in justice, mercy, and faithfulness John 8:2-11, Matt 23:23
- Palm Sunday**
- March 29 ...inspiring us to act Mark 11:1-11

Maundy Thursday

Apr 2 ...even Jesus gets his feet washed John 13:1-35

Good Friday

Apr 3 ...is revealed through nonviolence Luke 22:47-53, 23:33-38 & 44-46

Easter Sunday

Apr 5 ...is alive in the world Matt 28:1-10

Lenten Midweek Worship

This year, our Lenten midweek will expand out our Lenten theme – *Tell Me Something Good* – with a soup and salad dinner followed by worship around the tables. Meal sign ups are available in the Nest

February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25

5:30pm – 6:25pm Soup & Salad dinner with fellowship
6:30pm – 6:55pm Worship in Larson Hall



Sunday, April 5th 10:30 am

We will be having our Annual Easter Egg Hunt again this year! Before then, we are asking for donations of individually wrapped, fun sized candy. There will be a box for these donations located outside the Nest. Deadline for donations is Sunday, March 29th. Thank you!!

Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 29, 9am & 11am

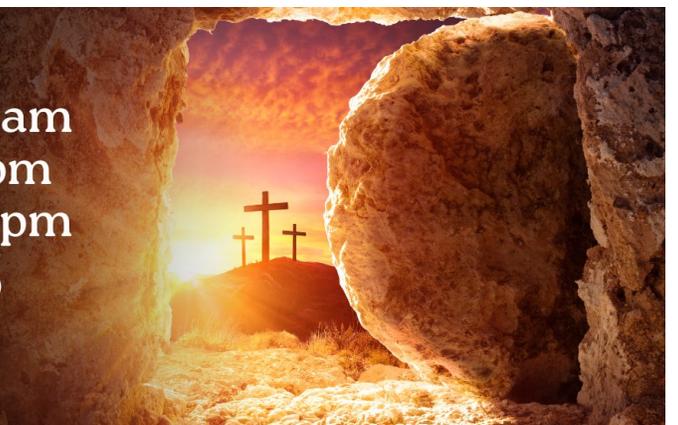
Maundy Thursday, April 2, 6:30pm

Good Friday, April 3, 12pm & 6:30pm

Easter Sunday, April 5

Worship 9am & 11am

Breakfast 10am





An important faith milestone in our young disciples lives is receiving their first communion. To live into the baptismal promises made by parents and the congregation, we will be starting communion education this month. If you have a child in 1st or 2nd grade or an older child who has not yet received first communion, please contact Pastor Kristin as soon as possible. Thanks to Sarah Puffenburger for leading this class again this year!



DIT Special Service Project

Isaiah 117 house is a new organization to our area that provides a safe, welcoming space for children as they transition to foster care. Their goal is for every child to feel seen, valued, and loved on one of the hardest days of their lives. Part of that mission is their Giving Room filled with bins of brand-new clothing, toiletries, comfort items, and more so that children don't enter foster care with nothing. Both the youth group and DIT are Bin Buddies this year. DIT adopted bins for girls and boys pajamas size large (size 12/14). If you would like to join in donating pajamas, there are two bins labeled for this project located outside the Nest. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Kristin.



2026 VBS Snowball Mountain Challenge

Find Your Strength
In God!

June 22-26;
9am-12:15pm

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13. We have started planning for VBS and it will be here before you know it! Right now, we need volunteers who are willing to help lead groups, help the leaders of the stations, and decorate. Each year our volunteers share how meaningful seeing the children's excitement as they engage with these stories and serve the community. If you are interested in helping in any part of VBS at all, please contact Pastor Kristin and let her know. You can email her at pastorkristin@hopetoledo.net or by commenting on the back on the connection card. Keep your eyes open for supply list donations coming soon. We will open registration for Hope families and returning VBS families later in March. We will open to the public April 1st. Keep your eyes peeled! We are so excited to see what this week has in store for us this year!



Pancake Breakfast

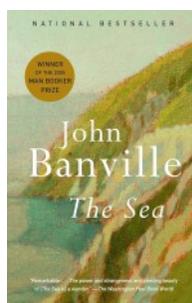
March 1st @ 10am in Larson Hall

Join us for a pancake breakfast sponsored by the youth group. Lent may have already begun, but we still hope you will join us for good food and fellowship! Donations will go towards the costs of the youth service trip to New York City this summer. Invite your family and friends!



Backpacks of Hope

As we head into spring, we currently need cans of soup, pasta, boxes of macaroni and cheese, boxes of cereal, and peanut butter. We have finally gone through the large donation of peanut butter from last fall. Donations can be placed on the white shelves across from the nursery or financial contributions can be marked "Backpacks of Hope."



Book Club

March 24th, 1pm

"The Sea" by John Banville

Max Morden, returns to the seaside town he grew up in after the recent death of his wife. Travel through grief and memories as he unites his history and his present life.

Don't forget to set your clocks an hour ahead before you go to bed on March 7th!



Staffing Update

I am writing to share that there has been a transition in our children's ministry at Hope. Pam Ferrara is no longer serving as Hope's children's minister. I give thanks for her 3 years of service at Hope and we wish her well in her next chapter.

For the sake of a seamless transition for this ministry, Pastor Kristin will be stepping in to help lead this ministry and will be the point of contact for DIT, 1st Communion, VBS and other areas of children's ministry at Hope. I give thanks that with Pastor Kristin's skill and experience that the transition will be smooth.

I know some may have questions around staffing the position. Our immediate focus and energy are on a continuity of the ministry and preparing for VBS. If you have questions or suggestions, I invite you to reach out to me.

- Pastor Kevin