

THE HOPE CONNECTION

News from Hope Methodist Church



THE GREATEST GIFT OF ALL

As the beautiful, comforting warmth of Thanksgiving begins to gently fade, we find our hearts still overflowing--not just from the bounty of God placed on our tables, but from the immense, enduring grace He has poured into our lives. We pause in these last weeks of the year to reflect on the blessings we often take for granted: love, food, community, truth, and the faithful guidance of our great Giver.

Yet, above all earthly treasures, our deepest gratitude rests upon the single, most profound gift ever bestowed upon humanity: the sending of His Son, Jesus Christ.

The Christmas story is more than a beautiful story of shepherds and angels, but it is the breathtaking revelation of God's grace and ultimate forgiveness in our lives. Our eternal King willingly exchanged the glory of heaven for the fragility of human flesh, submitting to a humble feed box in Bethlehem. He became Immanuel, "God with Us," not for comfort or accolade, but because He loved us beyond measure. Christ's decision to take on a human body demonstrates a powerful, costly, and personal love. A love that fully understands our joys, our struggles, and our deepest need.

This incredible, ultimate Gift is the true reason we give gifts at Christmass. We exchange earthly treasures today not out of obligation, but as a direct reflection of God's own outrageous generosity toward us. Our small tokens given in love are meant to celebrate that foundational moment when the greatest Gift of all arrived. God sent His Son to live among us, and ultimately, to die for our sins. The manger points to the cross, and our giving reflects that life-saving, everlasting grace.

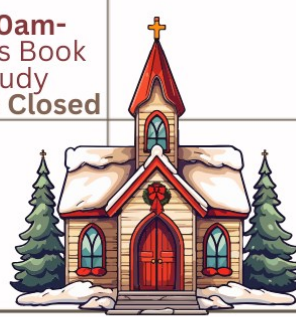
This December, we are called to be joyful beacons of this overwhelming story of love and sacrifice. We went to open our doors wide to our neighbors, friends, and family so they can experience the peace, hope, and love of Christ.

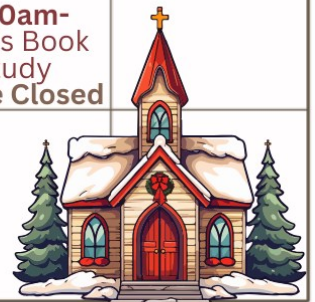
Please join us, and invite someone special, to share in the joy of these two services:

1. **Christmas Cantata-** Sunday, December 14th
 - **During the Morning Service**
2. **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service-** Tuesday, December 24th
 - **5:00pm-** A warm, meaningful service focused on the birth of Immanuel, concluding with our traditional lighting of candles. This is the perfect opportunity to bring someone who has not been to church in a while or has never come!

We pray that your home is filled with joy, peace, and the radiant light of the newborn King this season. From our church to your family with gratitude and Christmas blessings. -Pastor Marshall

DECEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Regular Sunday Services 9:45- Sunday School 10:50- Worship	1	2	8-9am- Yoga 10am- Class Meeting 6pm- Choir 6-7:30- HMC Kids & Youth	4	6:30am- Men's Book Study Office Closed	6
7	8-9am- Yoga 5pm- Delta Kappa Gamma meeting	9	8-9am- Yoga 10am- Class Meeting 6pm- Choir 6-7:30- HMC Kids & Youth	11	12-1pm- Men's Book Study Office Closed 5pm- HMCP @ Old Wash.	13-14am- Threads of Faith 5:45-6:15pm- HMC Choir @ Old Wash. 6pm- Youth Christmas Party
14-15- 3rd Sunday of Advent Christmas Cantata 1st Day of Winter	15	16	8-9am- Yoga 10am- Class Meeting 6pm- Choir 6pm- Children's Christmas Program 6:30-7:30- Youth	18	19	20
21-22- 4th Sunday of Advent 12:15pm- Ad. Board meeting	22	23	24-25- Christmas Eve Service Office Closed	25-26- MERRY CHRISTMAS Office Closed	26-27- Men's Book Study Office Closed	27
28-29- 1st Sunday after Christmas	29	30	31- New Year's Eve Office Closed			



nog veranderd; dat had zij
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 zal, Leeuwenhoek, zei hij
 maar in de opkamer, toen v
 sen, keek hij me strak aan.
 Zeg, het is toch geen goeno
 Ik zei hem, dat hij m

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Events @ HMC & in Hope



'TIS THE SEASON

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Wednesday,
December 24 @ 5pm

- **Sunday, November 30** @ 9am in the Mall Area we will have our annual Advent Kick-Off Breakfast!
- **Friday, December 12** @ 5pm, students from HMCP will sing at Washington Methodist Church!
- **Saturday, December 13** @ 5:45pm, the HMC Chancel Choir will sing at Washington Methodist Church!
- **Sunday, December 14** will be our Christmas Cantata during Worship!

WE WILL BE DIVING INTO THE OLD TESTAMENT THROUGH THE BIBLE RECAP BEGINNING IN JANUARY! SEE BETSY STILL FOR MORE INFORMATION!

December Mission Project

December 10

5:30pm

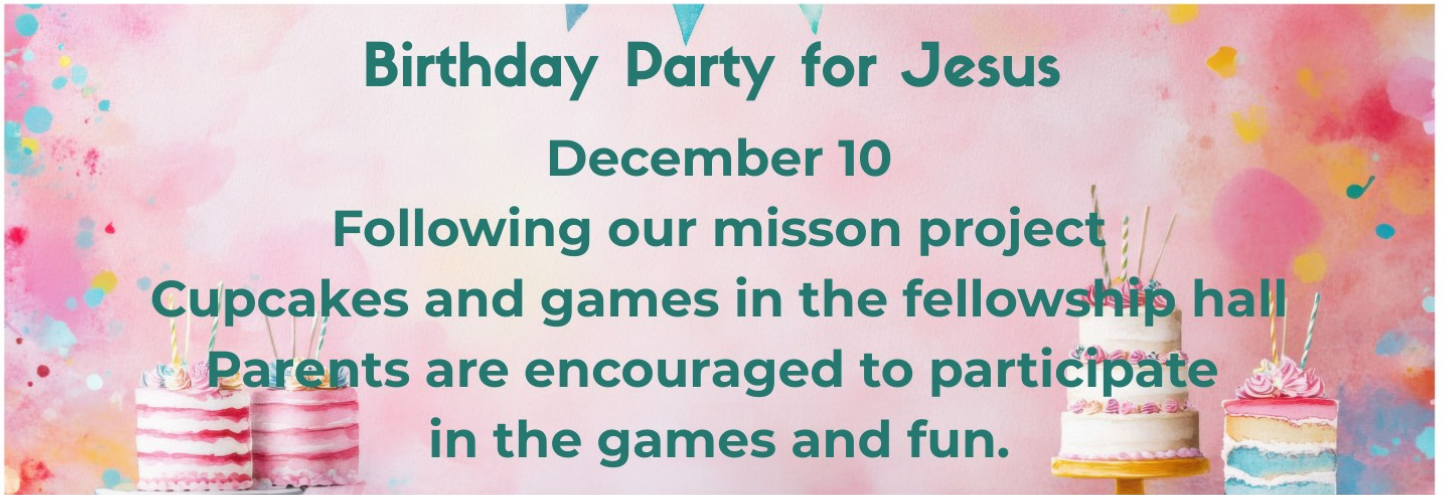
Children & Youth will be delivering blankets to the residents of Heather Manor. Blankets were purchased by the Anna Manney/Century Bible Classes



Birthday Party for Jesus

December 10

**Following our mission project
Cupcakes and games in the fellowship hall
Parents are encouraged to participate
in the games and fun.**



Christmas Program

**Come join the fun as we look at the night
before Christmas or**

Twas the Night Before Christ's Birth!

DECEMBER 17

6:00PM in the Sanctuary

No Children's Activities following the program

**There will be no Wednesday night activities
December 24 or December 31, 2025
Activities will resume on January 7, 2026**

HMC YOUTH

December Mission Project

December 10

5:30pm

Children & Youth will be delivering blankets to the residents of Heather Manor. Blankets were purchased by the Anna Manney/Century Bible Classes



Youth Christmas Party

Saturday, December 13, 2026

HMC Fellowship Hall

Bring your favorite appetizer

There will be a catered meal

Bring a wrapped gift - boy/girl appropriate
no more than \$25.00

6:00pm

RSVP by
Dec. 3rd

December 17

Youth are encouraged to attend the Children's program

at 6:00pm

Youth will meet from 6:30-7:30 following the play

OUR MISSION? TBD

Mission Trip meeting - Wed. Jan. 7 - 6pm

Youth room - parents too!!

WELCOME TO HMC!

New Members @ HMC
from December 2024-
November 2025

Charlton Luker

12/2/24

Jean Ann Luker

12/2/24

Dean Butler

2/27/25

Brayden Perkins

5/4/25

Lilli Beaver

5/4/25

Phil McLarty

9/14/25



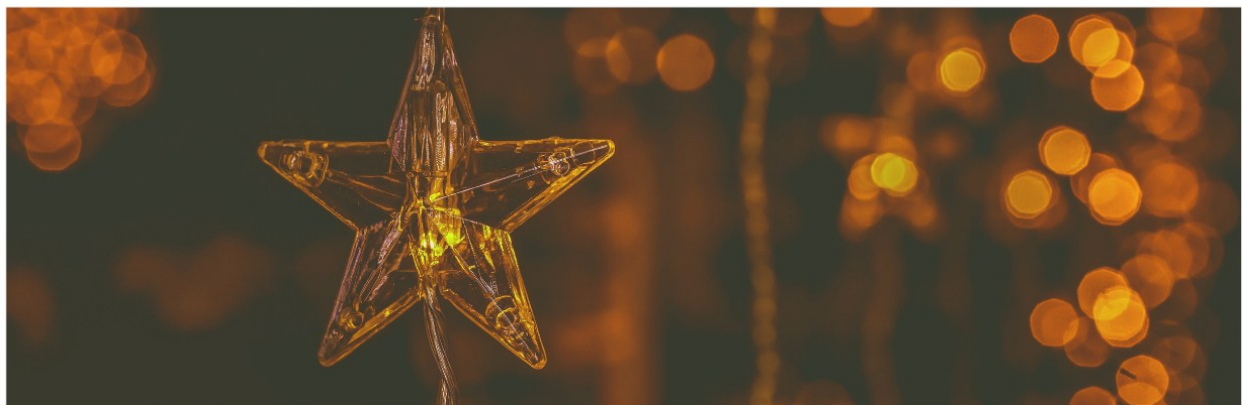
2025 HMC MEMBERSHIP REPORT



Your presence is a blessing &
we are thankful that you've
chosen to worship & serve with
us!

LIGHT FROM THE WORD

“CAUSE FOR REJOICING”



“AND MARY SAID:

*‘My soul glorifies
the Lord and my
spirit rejoices in
God my Savior.’”*

-Luke 1:46-47

LUKE 12:6-28, 39-56
REJOICE IN GOD
YOUR SAVIOR, AND
GLORIFY HIM.

Carol Knapp described a predawn day in Alaska. Standing in the woods near clusters of spruce trees under the black sky, she marveled at the panorama of stars above her. She silently wished she could see a shooting star. As she offered up her praise to the God of the heavens, she quoted the psalmist: “All that is within me, bless his holy name” (Psalm 103:1 KJV). Just then, a shooting star streaked across the sky. She imagined God was writing his name in the heavens just for her. Then a second shooting star blazed into view.

Despite the fact that she was chilled in the predawn, it was mesmerizing. When she looked toward the North Star, a third shooting star raced across the sky. And then it was over. But as she went back inside, her heart swelled in praise to God. As far as we know, Mary didn't see any shooting stars, although the magi from the East followed a bright star to Bethlehem. Mary had her own personal angel who appeared, giving her the news about Jesus, whom she would carry. No wonder her soul glorified the Lord, and her spirit rejoiced in her Savior.

What are you rejoicing about as this year draws to a close? Be sure to praise the Lord for the year that is concluding and the new one all set to begin.

OUTREACH

Missions of HMC

During this Christmas season, and in the coming months as it gets colder, we will be ministering to many in need. We can always use cold-weather items, such as blankets, socks, coats for children, etc. If you'd like to donate items, please reach out to Cathryn Looney to see what current needs there are to be met. We are so grateful to the HMC church family for always being willing to serve!

Thank you to everyone who helped stuff shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child! This year, we are sending off 400 boxes! We appreciate our church always showing up to make Christmas better for underprivileged children all around the world!



Our 2nd annual Fall Festival was a great success! Thank you to all those who helped with set-up and clean-up and to everyone who spent the evening with us, we hoped you enjoyed yourselves!

HOPE METHODIST CHURCH

2300 South Main Street
PO Box 400
Hope, Arkansas
71802

870-777-8816
hopemethodistchurch@yahoo.com
hope-methodist.com
Join us each Sunday!
9:45- Sunday School
10:50- Worship



PRESCHOOL NEWS

We have had a busy fall & now we are looking forward to all our Christmas activities followed by a well-deserved break!

On Friday, December 12, at 5pm, our students will sing at Washington Methodist Church, we will have our class parties on our last day of school, December 18 and finally, on December 19, we will sing at Cadence Bank @ 9am and then at Tom Bean afterward. Thank you for your prayers this year--now we invite you to pray us into the New Year! Merry Christmas to you and yours!