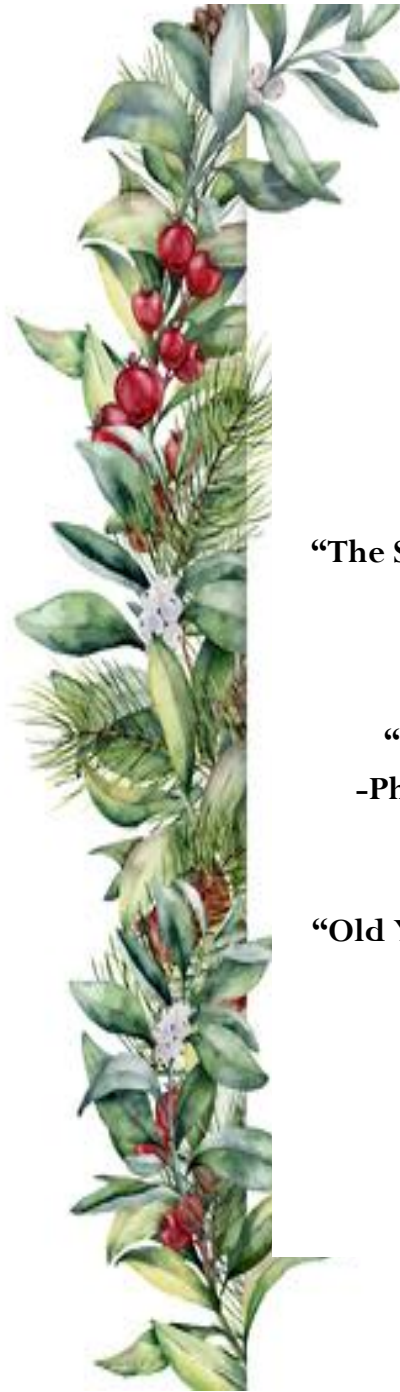


### A Message From Your Deacons:

This is to inform the congregation that the 2021 proposed budget was passed on Sunday, December 6, as was the proposed transfer of surplus funds to the church upgrades fund. We thank the congregation for their prayerful consideration in these matters and look forward to the good things to come.



**December 25**  
**“The Sights of Christmas”**  
-Luke 2: 1-20

**December 27**  
**“Why A Baby?”**  
-Philippians 2: 5-11

**January 3**  
**“Old Year’s/New Year’s”**



*Light Up The World*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*GOD’S GREETING**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*OPENING SONGS- “ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY”**  
*“HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING”*

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**CANDLE LIGHTING**

**SONG OF RESPONSE- “O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL”**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**OFFERING**

**\*SONG OF PREPARATION- “IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR”**

**SCRIPTURE**            *MATTHEW 1: 18-25*

**SERMON - “THE SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS”**

**\*SONG OF RESPONSE – “ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH”**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*DOXOLOGY- “EMMANUEL”**

**POSTLUDE**

*\*If you are able, please stand.*

**TODAY**, December 20,

- is the fourth Sunday in **Advent**

**NEXT SUNDAY**, December 27,

- is the first Sunday after **Christmas**

Please follow along with today's responsive readings and songs via a separate document, found on our website under "About" > "Weekly Bulletin" > "December 20 Responsive Readings"

#### **OFFICE UPDATES:**

- We are suspending Sunday PM services and choir meetings indefinitely. Please refrain from visiting the church office and instead contact us via phone or email.
- Please note the office hours will be **Monday - Thursday: 9 am- 1 pm**

#### **REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Please join us Friday, December 25 at 10 am** for our Christmas service! Join us in person or watch our livestream. The link can be found on the banner on our website homepage.

**The updated Council Profile** can be found under "Member's Info" on our website. Feel free to check it out and learn a little more about our current Elders and Deacons!

**SNL is having a virtual Christmas party tonight!** There will be a special musical performance, a scavenger hunt (with prizes), a snack break and more. Things you need to bring: a piece of paper you can write a letter on, a pen, hot chocolate, and cookies. We will start at 6 pm and go until about 7:30 pm. Look for a link to a Zoom meeting—we'll email it Sunday afternoon before the party!

**A big THANK YOU** to everyone who supported the New Hope Christmas Marketplace! With your generous help, we exceeded our goal and were able to provide gifts for over 40 children. Thank you for helping to make this Christmas extra special for New Hope families.

**In keeping with the governor's current regulations**, we will be limiting all indoor activities to 10 people. This includes Ladies Bible Study, Youth Group & Christian Singles.

**Our prayer group will continue to meet** Thursday evenings at 7 pm via Zoom. The Zoom email invitation will contain that week's prayer guide. For more information please contact the church office or Roy Bushoven.

**Faith Community is hiring!** We are looking for a part-time Worship & Creative Director to help coordinate worship services and serve on the Worship Committee. Please visit "About" > "Employment Opportunities" on our website for the full job description.

**Join us for an Advent Book Club!** COVID-19 may make the holidays different for many of us. We, however, must look forward to Christmas with hope rather than fear, because of the babe in the manger over 2,000 years ago. On Tuesdays at 7:15 pm, we will continue an Advent Book Club on Zoom. All are welcome to attend. We will study a chapter each week for the 5 weeks leading up to Christmas from the book, *All Earth is Waiting, Good News for God's Creation at Advent* by **Katie Z. Dawson**. Copies are still available at the church. These books may also be purchased from a variety of sources. For further information please contact Carol Dunning, conawhy@yahoo.com or contact the church office to receive the Zoom information via email.

#### **Children's Ministries:**

- Children's Worship videos will now be up on our website and YouTube page! New videos will be posted every 2 weeks and give our kids the chance to continue their Children's Worship experience virtually. Check out our YouTube page or look under "Youth" on our website.
- "Zoom KidSpace" meets twice a month from 9-9:30 am on Sunday mornings. If you would like more information about this program, please contact Linda Van Lenten at 973-432-3783 or vanlentenlinda@optiumum.net.

#### **OUR FAITH COMMUNITY FAMILY**

Thank you all for the cards and get well wishes and prayers on behalf of Betty for her recovery. It is so comforting to have such a loving church family concerned for each other. - Herm & Betty Brandes

*Don DeBruin* is in rehab at Regency Gardens in Wayne, recovering from COVID-19. We ask that you keep Don and the Hoogerhyde family in your prayers.

#### **SICK & SHUT-INS –**

Betty Brandes, Louise Butler, Don Brandes, Don De Bruin, Ron Dapp, Helena Dykstra, Foge Maas, Muriel Tolsma,



#### **BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

12/20 Tracy Baron