

ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

IN JESUS' NAME WE WELCOME YOU!

Baptism of Our Lord January 10 & 14, 2024

WELCOME TO ZION. It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will strengthen your faith and fill your heart with the peace only God can give and the joy we have in believing that JESUS CHRIST is our Savior from sin.

Worship Focus: Today's lessons show us the meaning of the name "Christ," the Anointed one.

This is the Second Sunday in the season of Epiphany. The readings during the Epiphany season carry forward the emphasis in the readings for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, the theme of Jesus revealing himself to us as God and Savior. In Christmas and Epiphany our attention is on getting to know Jesus, who he is and how he works; thus there is not so much emphasis on our response beyond the response of faith, which itself is always seen as his work and not ours.

LITURGY: Service of the Word

CW pg. 38

OUR FAMILY AT WORSHIP

BATHROOMS are located in the back of church, just down the hall toward the school. Please ask an usher for help finding them.

HEARING ASSISTANCE EQUIPMENT is available as part of our sound system. Individual hand-held units are available. Please check with an usher if you would like a unit for today's worship service.

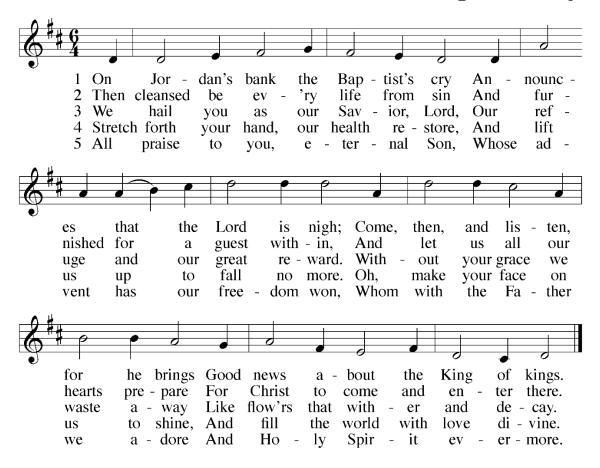
VISITORS are asked to please sign our fellowship registry in the back of church so that we will have a record of your visit. Thank you for joining us today!

For most of you, putting on perfume, cologne, or aftershave before coming to church is just routine. But for a growing number of us in the congregation, those smells will lead to nausea, headaches, shortness of breath, and migraines. We are asking if you could please re-evaluate your use of fragrances before you come to church, especially during the winter months when the enclosed heated space will magnify the effects of the fragrances. If you could wait until you get home from church to spritz on the smells, it would be greatly appreciated!

OPENING HYMN: CW 16

ADVENT

On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry



Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, st. 1-3, alt.; composite, st. 4-5.

Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR (LM) Latin melody, 15th century, adapt.

P: The grace of our Lord (*) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.
- P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

The minister says the Prayer of the Day.

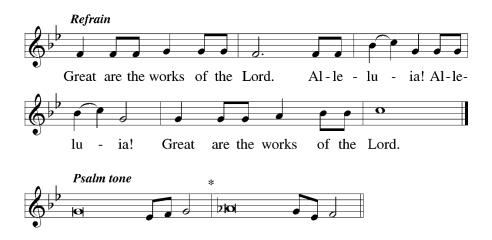
P: Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him you beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in out calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



First Lesson Isaiah 49:1-6

49 Listen to me, you coastlands. Pay attention, you faraway peoples! The LORD called me from the womb. When I was inside my mother, he mentioned my name. ²He made my mouth like a sharpened sword. He hid me in the shadow of his hand. He made me a polished arrow. He concealed me in his quiver. ³He said to me, "You are my servant Israel, in whom I will display my glory." ⁴But I said to myself, "I have labored in vain. I spent my strength and came up empty, with nothing. Yet a just verdict for me rests with the LORD, and my reward is with my God." ⁵But now the LORD, who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to turn Jacob back to him, so that Israel might be gathered to him, so that I will be honored in the eyes of the LORD, because my God has been my strength— ⁶the LORD said: It is too small a thing that you should just be my servant to raise up only the tribes of Jacob and to restore the ones I have preserved in Israel, so I will appoint you to be a light for the nations, so that my salvation will be known to the end of the earth. (EHV)

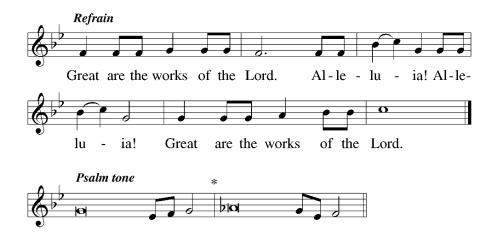
Psalm 2 *CW pg.* 65



Why do the nations <u>con</u>spire* and the peoples <u>plot</u> in vain?

The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD* and against his Anointed One.

Refrain



The One enthroned in <u>heav</u>en laughs;* the Lord <u>scoffs</u> at them.

Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, <u>say</u>ing,*

"I have installed my King on Zion, my <u>ho</u>ly hill."

I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:*

He said to me, "You are my Son;
today I have become your Father."

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the beg<u>in</u>ning,* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer. © 1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer (admin. Northwestern Publishing House). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

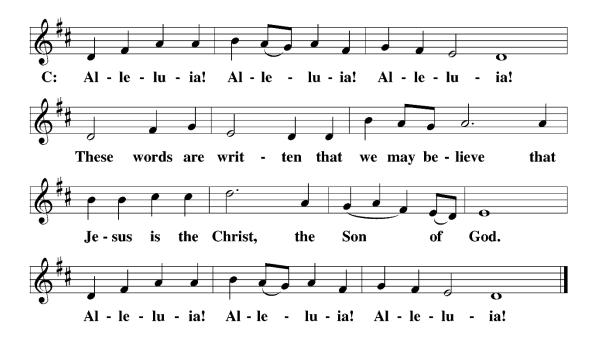
Second Lesson Acts 16:25-34

²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. Instantly all the doors were opened, and everyone's chains came loose. ²⁷ When the jailer woke up and saw that the prison doors were opened, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, because he thought that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul shouted with a loud voice, "Don't harm yourself, because we are all here!" ²⁹ The jailer called for lights, rushed in, and fell down trembling in front of Paul and Silas. ³⁰ Then he brought them outside and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, you and your household." ³² They spoke the word of the Lord to

him and to everyone in his home. ³³ At the same hour of the night, he took them and washed their wounds. Without delay, he and all his family were baptized. ³⁴ Then he brought Paul and Silas into his house and set food before them. He rejoiced, because he and his whole household had come to believe in God. (EHV)

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia. (Mark 1:11b)



GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11

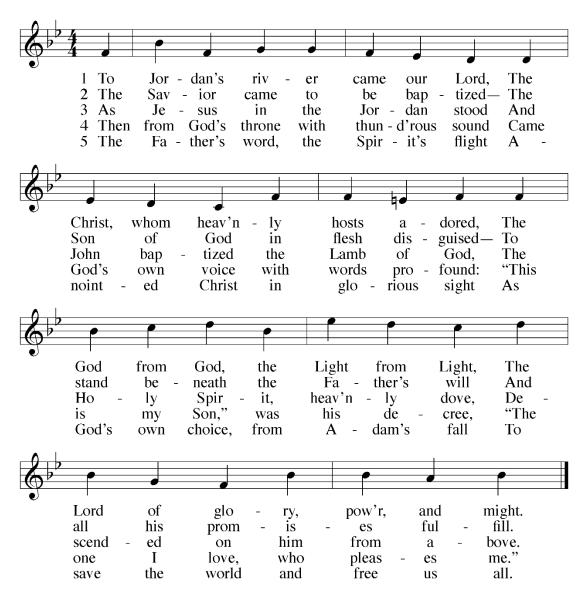
⁴ John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him. They were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins. ⁶ John was clothed in camel's hair, and he wore a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He preached, "One more powerful than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals! ⁸ I baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." ⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ Just as Jesus came up out of the water, he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love. I am well pleased with you." (EHV)



HYMN OF THE DAY: CW 89

EPIPHANY

To Jordan's River Came Our Lord



6 Now rise, faint hearts: be resolute! This man in Christ, our substitute! He was baptized in Jordan's stream, Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

Text: James P. Tiefel, b. 1949. © 1993 James P. Tiefel. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Tune: Winchester New (LM) *Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien*, Hamburg, 1690, alt.

SERMON THEME BASED ON: Mark 1:4-11

Jesus baptism and ours: There is no difference

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING: The collection of the offering in the service is an opportunity for the members of Zion to give back to God a small portion of what he has given us in order to support the Gospel ministry of Zion Lutheran Church and School and of the WELS throughout the world. If you are a visitor today, while we appreciate an offering from you, please do not feel obligated to give.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

C: You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

P: Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

- P: Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:
- C: Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.
- P: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:
- C: Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do. Special prayers and intercessions may follow.
- P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

P: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

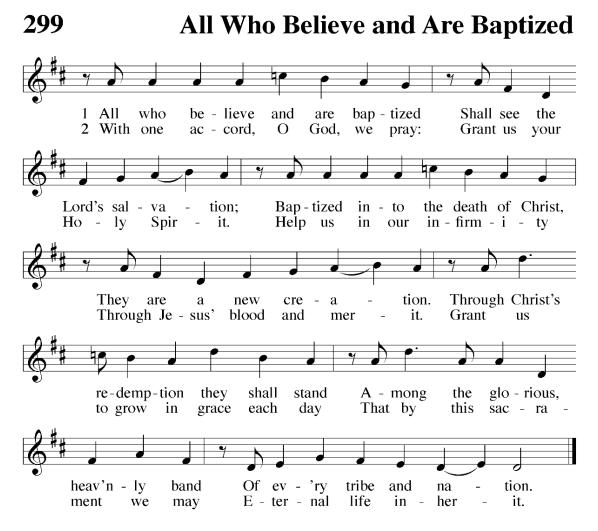
C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN: CW 299

BAPTISM



Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860-1942, alt. Tune: Es ist das Heil (87 87 887) *Etlich Cristlich lider*, Wittenberg, 1524, alt.

CLOSING PRAYER

P: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BENEDICTION

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.

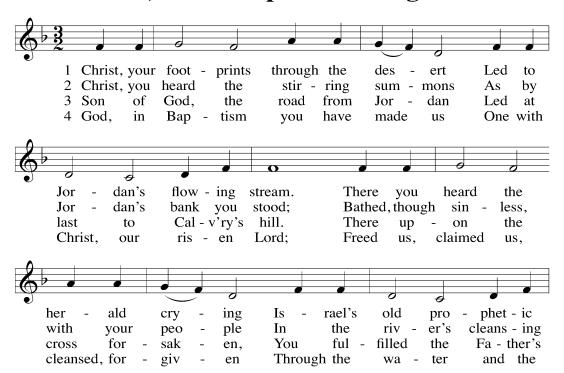


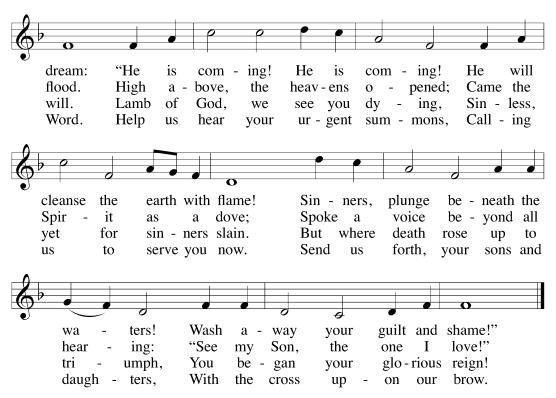
CLOSING HYMN: CWS 709

"Christ, Your Footprints Through the Desert"

EPIPHANY

709 Christ, Your Footprints Through the Desert





This hymn not only underscores the significance of our Lord's baptism in his work of salvation but also demonstrates the intimate connection between his baptism and our own.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007 © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Tune: BEACH SPRING (87 87 D) *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844



Officiants
Accompanist: Deanna Schneck
Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Greg Sitzman

^{*}All Church Service and Music Items are Printed under One License – A-717618.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Greg Sitzman: 734-309-7877; gsitzman@zionmonroe.org
Principal: Bryan Schneck: 907-331-7761; bschneck@zionmonroe.org

VOTER'S MEETING— A new call meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 28th at 12:30 p.m. after the voter's meeting.

OFFERING PLATE: The Elders and Council have decided that as of Sunday, January 7th we are going to return to passing the offering plate.

ALTAR GUILD: We are in need of volunteers to help with Altar guild. It only takes about a half hour a week to take care of the candles and maybe an hour a week when there is communion. We only have a few months with volunteers, so please ladies and gentlemen, if you can spare some time to help out it would be greatly appreciated. If you have never done it before someone can teach you very quickly what to do. Thank you for considering to help.

FRIENDS IN FAITH: A special event is coming in January. Friends In Faith is sponsoring a "baby shower" for our Pregnancy Care Center that is located in Redford, Michigan. Our "baby shower" will be **Sunday, January 14th** in the gymnasium. There is a wish list from the Pregnancy Care Center and sign-up sheet to attend the shower in the west foyer.

HELPING OUR CHURCH FAMILY: Friends in Faith has started a "Zion's Meal Train". The meal train is open to all male and female members of the Congregation interested in providing meals for fellow members in need. We are organizing an opportunity to donate meals for situations including surgeries/recovery, unexpected hospital stays, loss, birth of a child, etc. We will be utilizing the official Meal Train website (www.MealTrain.com) to stay organized. When many friends provide support through a meal, Meal Train keeps schedules, as well as provides locations and dietary restrictions. If you are interested in volunteering to prepare an occasional meal as needed, please contact Melissa Freiny at 734-652-1638.

Ushers Needed:

Dear Members of Zion,

Zion is currently in need of ushers to be added to existing ushering teams. To be an usher you simply need to be a male or female, 7th grade or older and a member of WELS. Ushers typically arrive 20 - 30 minutes prior to service, make sure the hymn boards are updated, candles are lit, etc. There is a list of "ushering duties" so don't worry about having to remember it all. We are simply looking for any confirmed member, male or female, willing to serve on an Ushering team. It's a great way to meet more of your Zion family and help our worship services run smoothly.

Willing and interested? Awesome! Please reach out to Rob Krueger, President of the Congregation, at 734-770-1149 or talk with Mark Kipf, Elders chairman at church.

Thank you for considering using your gift of Time! Board of Stewardship

Coming up at Zion

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Sunday School, Youth Group, and Adult Bible Class

Noon – Baby Shower Potluck

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class

5:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting

7:00 p.m. Board of Education Meeting

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Worship Service (IC)

Thursday 6:00 p.m. Church Council

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship Service (IC/CC)

10:30 a.m. Sunday School, Youth Group, and Adult Bible Class

1:00 p.m. Jesus Cares Worship Service

January Volunteers

	Dec. 31	Jan. 3 & 7	Jan. 10 & 14	Jan. 17 & 21	Jan. 24 & 28	Jan. 31 & Feb. 4
Altar Guild			Kathy	Vanisacker		
Live Stream Helpers	Rob Krueger	Ryan Roth	Steve Sordahl	Miller Sordahl	William Robinson	Erich Freiny
Ushers	<u>Dec. 31</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier	Jan. 3 Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier Jan. 7 Dave Benge Alan Bober Mathewt Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson	Jan. 10 Dave Benge Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson Jan. 14 Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick	Jan. 17 Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick Jan. 21 Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling Russ Vitale	Jan. 24 Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling Russ Vitale Jan. 28 Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Zach Turner	Jan. 31 Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Zach Turner Feb. 4 Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier
Communion Helpers		<u>Jan. 3</u> Mark Kipf <u>Jan. 7</u> Erich Freiny		Jan. 17 Ken Vagt Jan. 21 Jeremy Robinson		Jan. 31 Ken Vagt Feb. 4 Mark Kipf
		Steve Sordahl		Rob Krueger		Jake Burke





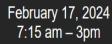
CAMP KILLARNEY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 21, 2024 3:00pm

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Adrian

Election to the Board of Directors will take place at this meeting. Nominations are needed for 2 positions on the board, either called worker or laymen on the ballot. The 2024 Budget will be presented for approval.

Please contact Board President John Rettle at (517) 260-4577 or jrettle@wilburellis.com, if you are interested in serving on the board or you know someone who would be willing to serve the Lord in this way. Contact John if you have any items to add to the agenda. Sorry, but no virtual option for viewing and participating in this meeting will be available.



Doubletree Hotel Bay City, MI



Theme: A Battle for My Heart - The Idols We Never Knew We Had

Deuteronomy 6:5 Love the Lord Your God with All Your Heart

Keynote: Guilt & Shame and Gospel healing. Rev. Peter A. Panitzke and Rev. Jeffrey A. Bonack

Registration Dates: December 1 – January 31



www.menalive-balm.org/ menalivewels@gmail.com

Men Alive is an annual event offered as spiritual balm for the soul under the auspices of BALM Bay Area Lutheran Ministry
1010 33rd Street Bay City, MI 48708

General Business

January Update

In partnership with families and Association churches, HCA exists to provide each student with a quality Christ-centered education preparing them for lives of service now and for eternity.



Innovative education.
Extraordinary connection.
Life-changing hope.

New Year Greetings! What a joy it is to go into a new year with the confidence that in Christ all of God's promises are assured. God's blessings to you and yours in the new year.

Financial Update - HCA has received approximately \$60,000 in individual gifts throughout the first half of the year. While we are extremely thankful for each donation, we have a long way to go to reach our annual goal of \$300,000. If you are able, please prayerfully consider a gift to the ministry at HCA. Each gift given helps us carry out the important work of "preparing students for life".

Open House Nights - January 10-11 (5:30-7:30pm) - Meet the teachers, tour the campus, and get answers to your questions about middle school and high school. Please invite anyone you know that might be interested in learning more about Hope Christian Academy.

Welcome Wednesdays - January 24 (9am-11am or 2:30pm-4:30pm)

Once a month we will be having a "Welcome Wednesday" open house. This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in learning more about Hope Christian Academy. Visitors will be able to see the classrooms, get a tour, and have questions answered about curriculum, extra-curriculars, and much more. If you know of someone that might be interested in an education at Hope Christian Academy for their child, please pass along the information.

International Student Host Families Needed - We thank our host families who have opened their hearts and homes to help with this ministry during the 23-24 school year, and are now planning for the 24-25 school year. We anticipate the need for more host families for next year! Host families are asked to provide meals, transportation to school and a room/bed. Host families receive a stipend to offset the costs associated with hosting. If you are interested in hosting a student, or if you would like more information, please contact the school office at 734-525-0160.