



Hope United Methodist Church

2506 Caton Farm Road
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www.hopeumcl.org

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January 2012

*Preparing for
Worship In January*

January 1

1st Sunday after Christmas
Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 8;
Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40
Pastor Sue preaching

January 8

1st Sunday after Epiphany
Holy Communion
Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29;
Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11
Pastor Glenna preaching

January 15

2nd Sunday after Epiphany
1 Samuel 3:1-10;
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18;
1 Corinthians 6:12-20;
John 1:43-51
Pastor Glenna preaching

January 22

3rd Sunday After Epiphany
Jonah 3:1-5, 10;
Psalm 62:5-12;
1 Corinthians 7:29-31;
Mark 1:14-20
Pastor Glenna preaching

January 29

4th Sunday After Epiphany
Deuteronomy 18:15-20;
Psalm 111;
1 Corinthians 8:1-13;
Mark 1:21-28
Pastor Glenna preaching

What exactly are the "Twelve Days of Christmas"?

www.coolquiz.com

The Twelve Days of Christmas are the twelve days between Christmas Day, December 25, and Epiphany, January 6. These twelve days were memorialized in a popular song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas," written by a gentleman named Drennon.

During the period 1558 to 1829, it was a crime to be a Catholic in England. Catholics were prohibited from any practice of their faith by law - private or public. Anyone caught with things that associated him with Catholicism, such as religious writings, would be severely punished.

Drennon wrote the "Twelve Days of Christmas" as one of the "catechism songs" to teach young Catholics the tenets of their faith in song, instead of in written form. It was a great memory tool that aided them in the learning of their faith while still hiding the fact that they were still practicing Catholicism. Drennon helped to prevent these young Catholics from being punished for reading religious books.

Each of the gifts given in this song has a hidden meaning intended to help teach and preserve the Catholic faith. For instance, the "true love" mentioned in the song does not refer to an earthly lover--it refers to God Himself. The "me" who receives the gift refers to every baptized person. The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

In the song, Christ is symbolically presented as a mother partridge who fakes injury to lure predators from her helpless nestlings, much in memory of the expression of Christ's sadness over the fate of Jerusalem: "Jerusalem! Jerusalem! How often would I have sheltered thee under my wings, as a hen does her chicks, but thou wouldst not have it so..."

The other symbols mean the following:

- 2 Turtle Doves** = The Old and New Testaments
- 3 French Hens** = Faith, Hope and Charity-- the Theological Virtues
- 4 Calling Birds** = the Four Gospels and/or the Four Evangelists
- 5 Golden Rings** = The first Five Books of the Old Testament, the "Pentateuch", which relays the history of man's fall from grace.
- 6 Geese A-laying** = the six days of Creation
- 7 Swans A-swimming** = the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the seven sacraments
- 8 Maids A-milking** = the eight beatitudes
- 9 Ladies Dancing** = the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit
- 10 Lords A-leaping** = the ten commandments
- 11 Pipers Piping** = the eleven faithful apostles
- 12 Drummers Drumming** = the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostle's



January 7 – Florence White
 January 8 – Sherm Hill
 January 9 – Logan Bown
 January 9 – Annetta O’Bryant
 January 14 - Brianna Harris
 January 16 – Chris Denk
 January 17 – Tori Larmon
 January 25 – Nancy Mitchell
 January 27 – Marty Olumstad
 January 29 – Christian Hunter
 January 31 – John Wietlispach

January 9—Marge & Mike Dernulc



<i>Those Who Serve</i>	January 8 <i>1st Sunday after Epiphany Holy Communion</i>	January 15 <i>2nd Sunday after Epiphany</i>	January 22 <i>3rd Sunday after Epiphany</i>	January 29 <i>4th Sunday after Epiphany</i>
Liturgist	Larry Wilkinson	Joyce Majewski	Vic Genge	Sue Ritts
Greeter	Jane McWherter	Arlene Hupach	Martin Olumstad	Laura Konieczny
Host(s)	Jane McWherter	Judy Sohr & Sharon Becker	Jill Genge & Laura Wright	Peggy & Brett Chapman
Offering Counters	Carole Blackwell & Boomer Crotty	Carole Blackwell & Carol Becker	Carole Blackwell & Marlene Shain	Carole Blackwell & Jill Genge
Communion Steward	Jill Genge			

Dear Hope UMC Family!

Thank you so very much for the expressions of love you have shared with Mark and me. Your gifts have made this Christmas season so incredibly warm and special.

***Blessings and peace for the New Year!
 Mark and Sue Ritts***

Sunday School Topics

Children's Sunday School

January 1	Wise Men	The good news of Jesus if for all people. Matthew 2: 1-12
8	Jesus at the Temple	We can get to know God like Jesus did. Luke 2: 39-52
15	Jesus is Baptized	We can follow God like Jesus did. Matthew 3: 1-17
22	The Fishermen	Following Jesus is the best thing we can do with our lives. Mark 1: 16-20
29	Jesus Calls Matthew	Following Jesus is the best thing we can do with our lives. Matthew 9: 9-13

Youth Topics

January 1	"And then he said...."	Gossip	Proverbs 17
January 8	"A friend indeed!"	Friendship	Proverbs 17, 18, 27
January 15	"Wise up"	Speaking wisely	Proverbs 18
January 22	"Good rep"	Reputation	Proverbs 22
January 29	"Dollars with wings"	Desire for wealth	Proverbs 23

Prayer Chain There are two active prayer chains that help to connect our church family with each other so that we can share in times of celebration and/or the needs for intercessory prayer. If you wish to participate in this ministry, but you are not currently on either the telephone chain or the computer chain, please contact the church office.

The church office is always in need of used ink cartridges. The office supply stores now *accept only name-brand (Dell, HP, and Epson) cartridges*. These cartridges can be redeemed at office supply stores for paper and other supplies we need to run our office. Please leave used cartridges in the secretary's mailbox.

If you wish to place flowers on the altar in honor or memory of a loved one, please contact the secretary in the church office to arrange the date and the dedication for the bulletin. You may also make a donation in honor or memory of a loved one in lieu of flowers.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOPE UMC

January 8—Taking down the Greens and a Potluck

February 4—Laity Convocation

February 5—Souper Bowl of Caring

February 6, March 4, 11, 18, 25—Lay Academy

February 28—Clergy/Laity Cluster Meeting