

DECEMBER 2011

THE WORD OF HOPE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE HOPE MORAVIAN CHURCH

OUR MISSION: WORSHIPING CHRIST. GROWING DISCIPLES. SERVING ALL.



“God So Loved the World”

Our Father Up in Heaven,
long, long years ago,
Looked down in His great mercy
Upon the earth below
And saw that folks were lonely
And lost in deep despair
And so He said, “I’ll send My Son
To walk among them there . . .
So they can hear Him speaking
And feel; His nearness, too,
And see the many miracles
That Faith alone can do . . .
For if man really sees Him
And can touch His healing hand
I know it will be easier
To Believe and understand” . . .
And do the Holy Christ Child
Came down to live on earth
And that is why we celebrate
His holy, wondrous birth,
And that is why at Christmas
The world becomes aware
That heaven may seem far away
But God is everywhere.



Helen Steiner Rice



The King is Coming

Having just finished Thanksgiving and looking forward to Christmas, I think it appropriate to turn back into the Old Testament and look at prophesy of the coming Messiah: *Isaiah 9:6 says, For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

I am always amazed, even though I really shouldn't be, at how God inspired the Old Testament prophets to perfectly talk about an event that wouldn't take place for about 700 years in this instance.

We celebrate the birth of Christ each year, as we should – but do we look forward to the return of Our Savior with as much anticipation as the nation of Israel did as they were waiting on The Messiah?

Matthew 24:38 says, "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

Do you believe that Jesus, our King, is coming back to earth as He describes here in Matthew's Gospel? More importantly, are you ready for that return, promised by God in His Holy Word?

We celebrate the birth of Christ, and *Luke 15:7 say, I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.*

Wouldn't it be awesome to have numerous celebrations both here and in heaven during this Advent season as we anticipate the coming events of Christmas and Christ's coming return!

From the Boston family to your family, may God bless you and keep you near him during this special time of year. If there is ever anything I can do for you, please don't hesitate to let me know.

I love you all so much!

Pastor Ed

WHAT A WONDERFUL TIME OF YEAR

Norman Vincent Peale, a noted minister and author tells the story of a young girl from Sweden spending Christmas in the big bustling New York City. She was living with an American family and helping them around the house, and she didn't have much money. So she knew she couldn't get them a very nice Christmas present – besides, they already had so much, with new gifts arriving every day.

With just a little in her pocket, she went out and bought an outfit for a small baby, and then she set out on a journey to find the poorest part of town and the poorest baby she could find. At first, she received only strange looks from passerby when she asked them for help. But then a kind stranger, a Salvation Army bell-ringer, guided her to a poor part of town and helped her deliver her gift. On Christmas morning, instead of giving them a wrapped present, she told the family she served what she had done in their name. Everyone was speechless, and everyone was blessed - -the girl for giving, the wealthy family for seeing others with new eyes, and the poor family for receiving an unexpected gift.

All of us have opportunities both large and small to show kindness, especially at Christmastime. We can help strangers by delivering gifts to needy kids or serving homeless families at a soup kitchen. Or we can simply look for everyday ways to be kind, like allowing someone to go ahead of us in a lengthy line at the department store, or giving that bell-ringer a little change and a few encouraging words.

Maybe it's because we're in gift-giving mode anyway that giving to others becomes so important at Christmas; Or because we're more aware of our families and friends and communities; Or maybe it's because two thousand years ago, God sent the most perfect, most giving Gift of all, helping us understand true kindness (1).

It is because of Him that we celebrate this season and without that wonderful Gift to human-kind life would be meaningless. I cannot imagine living without the Savior in our midst. The One who is our Counselor, Prince of Peace, the great I AM, Immanuel, Lord of Lords, Messiah, Wonderful, Almighty, Everlasting Father, Redeemer, Son of God. The One who has given us all of the answers to life's problems in his Holy Word. The One who had plans for our lives even before we were conceived.

Yes, this is our reason for living the Christian life, to show our appreciation for what He has done for us. Wouldn't it be wonderful if people would live every day of the year the way they live at Christmas time? We should strive to live in such a way that our Light shines to the darkness of this world. Many people have hurts, hardship and are truly in despair, let's point them to the One who can take them out of their dismal situations and give them something to live for. That is only possible by God sending His only Son to earth to give hope and peace.

May the Peace be with you throughout this season and may it not stop in January, but keep on throughout the year.

Lovingly


Ronda Martin





CONFIRMATION CLASS

*“Do you affirm these children of God as members
of this congregation, and accept your obligation to
love and nurture them in Christ?”*

Moravian Book of Worship

An instructional team has been forming to support the confirmation instruction for many of our 7th and 8th graders. A ‘team approach’ to training will be done by Rev. Jim Hicks and members of the instructional team. Here are some ways that you can help:

- ~ teach a lesson (we have a curriculum!)
- ~ Be a prayer partner for the confirmands
- ~ Mentor
- ~ Chaperone @weekend retreats (2)
- ~ transportation
- ~ provide food/snacks for Retreats
- ~ be a “guest speaker” to share your faith/testimony

Contact Jenny Wallace (546-4834) if you are interested in helping.

ANNUAL MEETING

CHURCH COUNCIL

A Church Council meeting was held on November 13, 2011. Election of new board members was held. The budget for 2012 was discussed and approved. Minutes from last Church Council were read. Delegates for the Western District Senate were selected.

Those elected were:

Elders: Ken Chandler & Jackie Runion

Trustees: Steve Wilson, Gary Huffman & Kurt Heilman

Morning Star Preschool: Pam Carr

C.E.C. Committee: Anita Watkins

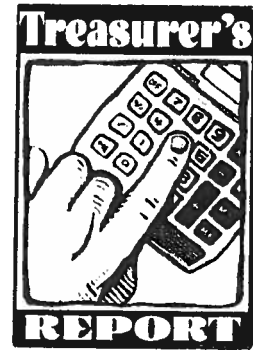
Delegates for W.D. Senate: Ken Chandler, Ron Trotter, Don Williamson

Alternates are Arnold Ellison and Ronda Martin.

Financial Update

submitted by Diane Stafford, Treasurer

	October 31, 2011	Jan-Oct. 2011	
Budget Income	\$ 29,021.92	\$ 238,098.79	
Budget Expenses	\$ 20,215.45	\$ 208,677.18	
Net Budget Gain/Loss	\$ 8,806.47	\$ 29,421.61	
Other Income	\$ 173,116.73	\$ 189,609.01	← *** This includes the insurance check for the hail damage of \$169,378.01
Other Expenses	\$ 500.00	\$ 17,463.16	
Net Other Gain/Loss	\$ 172,616.73	\$ 172,145.85	
Budget Gain/Loss	\$ 8,806.47	\$ 29,421.61	
Other Gain/Loss	\$ 172,616.73	\$ 172,145.85	
Total Gain/Loss	\$ 181,423.20	\$ 201,567.46	



Financial Update For Morning Star Preschool

submitted by Diane Stafford, Treasurer

	October 31, 2011	Jun-Oct.. 2011	
Budget Income	\$ 2,825.00	\$ 6,680.00	
Budget Expenses	\$ 2,418.75	\$ 7,010.10	
Net Budget Gain/Loss	\$ 406.25	\$ (330.10)	
Other Income	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,501.84	
Other Expenses	\$ -		
Net Other Gain/Loss	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,501.84	
Budget Gain/Loss	\$ 406.25	\$ (330.10)	
Other Gain/Loss	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,501.84	
Total Gain/Loss	\$ 906.25	\$ 1,171.74	



THE ARK CHRISTMAS CARD DROP AND PICK-UP

The Ark Sunday School Class is offering their Christmas Card Drop & Pick-up in the Fellowship Hall now thru December. Simply bring your cards for members that you normally see in worship and the class will take care of the rest. Be sure to look for cards that have been left for you also! A small donation will be appreciated to help with The Ark's activities.

Youth News

Youth News

Youth News

NEWS FROM THE ROCK

DECEMBER 18: CAROLING/CHRISTMAS PARTY (Meet in Fellowship Hall 5:00PM)

Bring your cheeriest singing voice as we bring the gift of Christmas song/fellowship to some of our senior members and shut-ins. We'll party in the MOC on our return! Make sure to invite a friend!

COLD and SNOWY WEATHER: Keep tuned in during the coming cold and snowy weather---
An impromptu trip to Perfect North Slopes is in the forecast!

Fall Retreat Report

Fall Retreat was a huge mix of faith, fun and fellowship for 43 Hope youth/staff. Here's who went...

Jr. High (16): Emma Watkins, Katie Brandwie, Mallory Jordan, Abbey Ashbrook, Connor Wilson, Clayton Wilson, Aaron Sweet, Matthew Sweet, Joseph Sweet, Pete Trotter, Dustin Pruden, Devon Pruden, Megan Swinford, Morgan Ketron, Annie Ashbrook, Spencer Seim

Sr. High (12): Diana Hilycord, Dannielle Fields, Jackie Kent, LeAnn Lux, Shelby Redmond, Jordan Seim, Ryan Seim, Eric Lux, Jordan Ezell, Skylar Stubbelfield, Grant Huffman, Graham Trotter

Post High (3): Dalton Dodd, Lindsay Huffman, Mac Trotter

Adults (12): Richard & Jo Keller, Tom & Joy Lux, Steve & Dawn Wilson, Anita Watkins, Amy Keller, Kurt Heilman, Amy Swinford, Nancy Beaty, Kim Aquillo

*** All 6th-8th graders are invited to be a 'piece of the ROCK'***

KIDS FOR CHRIST

Hi to all KFC and friends!

November was a busy month. We had our annual Potato and Salad Bar Fundraiser after Harvest Home. We would like to thank everyone who donated money to help fund the KFC activities for the upcoming year. We also began selling our Christmas Ornaments at Potato Bar and at Turkey Supper and each Sunday after church until they are gone. Thanks to all the kids and adults who helped get the ornaments done and everyone who has helped in selling them. Everyone has been very supportive of that mission project which benefits the Hope Food Bank and we so appreciate it.

Our December activity will be on the 18th, with Christmas Caroling beginning at 2 pm and then back to the MOC for our Christmas Party. Anyone from the congregation is welcome to go caroling with us as well.

All kids in 2nd through 5th grade is welcome to join us anytime for fun and fellowship.



- 1 Isabella Boston
- 6 Mary Price
- 7 Daniel Boewe
Tom Dodd
Dustin Shoaf
- 8 Dorothy Traylor
- 12 Haley Cooper
Eve Esch
Spencer Reinle
- 13 Monte Gilliland
- 14 Susan Kloss
- 15 Nancy Gilliland
- 16 Lori Wells
- 21 Norah Berkenstock
Andrew Harker
- 22 Hannah Pruden
- 24 Nick Marlin
- 25 **JESUS**
Chester Bolander
- 26 Ronda Martin
Steve Wilson
- 29 Abilgail Toole
- 30 Lauren Simmons
- 31 Nick Kloss
Jim Stafford

- 1 Monte & Judy Gilliland
- 3 Jim & Wendy Christy
- 11 Steve & Sharri Hamilton
- 16 Sean & Rebecca Eberhart
- 18 Tony & Lisa Garrison
- 23 Steve & Joyce Garrison
- 27 John & Jean Glick
- 28 Owen & Karen Childres
Philip & Sharron Harker



How many ways can we "Thank You". This way doesn't seem good enough to thank everyone for all they did to make the another Turkey Supper a great success.

We really appreciated the people who donated, pies, angel food cakes, brownies, persimmon pudding, cakes, sugar, coffee, cranberries, baked turkeys, carved the turkeys. Made and baked dressing, made and cooked noodles, cooked cranberries, cut the bread, set up the dining room, cut and served desserts, parked all the cars, washed dishes and pans, ran the dish washer, clean-up and many many other things that were done!

This is a very special way the whole church can be involved and the Ladies Society appreciates all the donation, all the help and support.

This year 36 turkeys were prepared, 24 doz. eggs were made into noodles, 75 loaves of bread in preparation of the dressing, 77# of cranberries cooked, 48 gal. of green beans prepared, around 125 pies baked and other desserts.

This year 894 dinners(624 sit-down meals and 270 carry-outs) and then around 100 workers.

All the profit from the Turkey Supper is used for equipment for the kitchen and other needs of the church. **Thanks again for all the help and support.**

A Christmas Game

It's a matter of opinion that Yule love this game. In each sentence below, fill in the blanks with an expression commonly used at Christmas time.

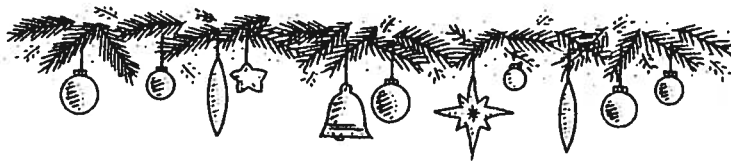
1. On December 24, Adam's wife was known as _____.
2. In Charles Dickens's A Christmas Carol, Scrooge was visited by the ghost of _____.
3. An opinion survey in Alaska is called a _____.
4. What does Santa Claus do with his three gardens? _____, _____, _____.
5. What Christmas message is conveyed by these letters? ABCDEFGHIJKMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
ABCDEFGHIJKMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ. _____, _____
6. When the salt and the pepper say "Hi!" to each other, they are passing on _____.
7. When you cross a sheep with a cicada, you get a _____.
8. A quiet medieval armor-wearer is a _____.
9. A cat walking on the desert is bound to get _____.
10. People who tell jokes on December 25 might be called _____.
11. Actor O'Connor and actress Channing are known on December 25 as _____.

Answers found in this newsletter.

*May the miracle
of His birth
fill your heart with love.*

One Year Bible Reading Plan

December								
December 1	Daniel	8:1 - 27	1 John	2:1 - 17	Psalms	120:1 - 7	Prov.	28:25 - 26
December 2	Daniel	9:1 - 10:21	1 John	2:18 - 3:6	Psalms	121:1 - 8	Prov.	28:27 - 28
December 3	Daniel	11:1 - 34	1 John	3:7 - 24	Psalms	122:1 - 9	Prov.	29:1
December 4	Daniel	11:35 - 12:13	1 John	4:1 - 21	Psalms	123:1 - 4	Prov.	29:2 - 4
December 5	Hosea	1:1 - 3:5	1 John	5:1 - 21	Psalms	124:1 - 8	Prov.	29:5 - 8
December 6	Hosea	4:1 - 5:15	2 John	1:1 - 13	Psalms	125:1 - 5	Prov.	29:9 - 11
December 7	Hosea	6:1 - 9:17	3 John	1:1 - 14	Psalms	126:1 - 6	Prov.	29:12 - 14
December 8	Hosea	10:1 - 14:9	Jude	1:1 - 25	Psalms	127:1 - 5	Prov.	29:15 - 17
December 9	Joel	1:1 - 3:21	Revelation	1:1 - 20	Psalms	128:1 - 6	Prov.	29:18
December 10	Amos	1:1 - 3:15	Revelation	2:1 - 17	Psalms	129:1 - 8	Prov.	29:19 - 20
December 11	Amos	4:1 - 6:14	Revelation	2:18 - 3:6	Psalms	130:1 - 8	Prov.	29:21 - 22
December 12	Amos	7:1 - 9:15	Revelation	3:7 - 22	Psalms	131:1 - 3	Prov.	29:23
December 13	Obadiah	1:1 - 21	Revelation	4:1 - 11	Psalms	132:1 - 18	Prov.	29:24 - 25
December 14	Johah	1:1 - 4:11	Revelation	5:1 - 14	Psalms	133:1 - 3	Prov.	29:26 - 27
December 15	Micah	1:1 - 4:13	Revelation	6:1 - 17	Psalms	134:1 - 3	Prov.	30:1 - 4
December 16	Micah	5:1 - 7:20	Revelation	7:1 - 17	Psalms	135:1 - 21	Prov.	30:5 - 6
December 17	Nahum	1:1 - 3:19	Revelation	8:1 - 13	Psalms	136:1 - 26	Prov.	30:7 - 9
December 18	Habakkuk	1:1 - 3:19	Revelation	9:1 - 21	Psalms	137:1 - 9	Prov.	30:10
December 19	Zephaniah	1:1 - 3:20	Revelation	10:1 - 11	Psalms	138:1 - 8	Prov.	30:11 - 14
December 20	Haggai	1:1 - 2:23	Revelation	11:1 - 19	Psalms	139:1 - 24	Prov.	30:15 - 16
December 21	Zechariah	1:1 - 21	Revelation	12:1 - 17	Psalms	140:1 - 13	Prov.	30:17
December 22	Zechariah	2:1 - 3:10	Revelation	13:1 - 18	Psalms	141:1 - 10	Prov.	30:18 - 20
December 23	Zechariah	4:1 - 5:11	Revelation	14:1 - 20	Psalms	142:1 - 7	Prov.	30:21 - 23
December 24	Zechariah	6:1 - 7:14	Revelation	15:1 - 8	Psalms	143:1 - 12	Prov.	30:24 - 28
December 25	Zechariah	8:1 - 23	Revelation	16:1 - 21	Psalms	144:1 - 15	Prov.	30:29 - 31
December 26	Zechariah	9:1 - 17	Revelation	17:1 - 18	Psalms	145:1 - 21	Prov.	30:32
December 27	Zechariah	10:1 - 11:17	Revelation	18:1 - 24	Psalms	146:1 - 10	Prov.	30:33
December 28	Zechariah	12:1 - 13:9	Revelation	19:1 - 21	Psalms	147:1 - 20	Prov.	31:1 - 7
December 29	Zechariah	14:1 - 21	Revelation	20:1 - 15	Psalms	148:1 - 14	Prov.	31:8 - 9
December 30	Malachi	1:1 - 2:17	Revelation	21:1 - 27	Psalms	149:1 - 9	Prov.	31:10 - 24
December 31	Malachi	3:1 - 4:6	Revelation	22:1 - 21	Psalms	150:1 - 6	Prov.	31:25 - 31



Joy

Upon the marriage of Joyce Hamer and Steve Webster on November 4th.

Upon the birth of Nolan Michael Prather, son of Michael and Katie Prather. Born Nov 23rd.

THANK YOU CARDS

From the Tom Thayer family
From the Jim Scrogam family

Beth Ellison wrote: Thanks for all the cards, prayers and visits during my hospital stay. Everything turned out OK.

Paula Keller Compton wrote: Thank you for all the cards, thoughts, prayers and visits. They are all *priceless*. I can say with great joy I have felt the many prayers and know that pray has been a major part of my recovery.

Sally Scrogam wrote: Thank you for the food, the thoughts, the prayers. Thank you for the cards. Thank you to all who came to the visitation. Thank you to all who stayed for the memorial service. Everything that you have done has meant so much to my family and me.

The Moravian Women would like to thank all who

participated in the Harvest Home service; Katlin Nading for being the speaker and all of the beautiful fall decorations. We would also like to thank KFC for providing the delicious Baked Potato luncheon.

PRAYERS OF COMFORT

To the family and friends of Tom Thayer
To the family and friends of Bill Zimmerman
To family and friends of Mary Blasdel.
To the friends and family of Ken Zvokel.
To the friends and family of Jim Scrogam.

NURSING HOME

Hope Lull, Lola Herndon & Sharon Seim, Millers Merry Manor.
Dorothy Robertson, Keepsake Village
Doris Robinette, Silver Oaks
John Harker and Martha McDonald in their respective homes.

HOSPITALIZED but now home

Beth Ellison, Karen Templeton

HEALTH CARE CENTER AT FOUR SEASONS

Irene Nading

THANK YOU TO THE HANGING OF THE GREENS VOLUNTEERS from Amy Keller:

Don Settle
Doug Settle
Debbie Settle
Tucker Settle
Sandy Spangler
Glen Keller
Jane Keller
Richard Keller
Jeff Cleland
Lisa Garrison
Joyce Garrison
Mike Lewis
Dee Lewis
Rachel Cuzac
Ann Boston
Gary Dodd
Susie Dodd
Joe Dodd
Ken Burns
Cathy Burns





DECEMBER FOR 3'S



Our themes for the month are Families and Love. We will review skills learned thus far. We will work on fine motor skills as we do special Christmas projects.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
RUDOLPH AND REINDEER				Nolan		
SANTA		Jonah		Vinnie		
JESUS IS BORN		Savannah		RJ	CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION	
	Christmas Vacation					



DECEMBER FOR 4'S



Our themes for the month are Families and Love. We will review skills learned thus far. We will work on fine motor skills as we do special Christmas projects.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
RUDOLPH AND REINDEER Letter Rr					MAKE DOUGH ORNAMENTS	Show and Tell - Bring something about Christmas
SANTA! Letter Ss	Bricen		Kylee and Kolton		MAKE GINGERBREAD DEVICES	Show and Tell - Bring something that begins with Ss
JESUS IS BORN Letter Jj	Norah's Birthday		Luke's Birthday		CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION	
	Christmas Vacation					

December 2011



December 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
4	9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:00am Snack-n-Yak 11:30am Youth Handbells 6:00pm Christ Giving Service 7:00pm Crochet Class	5	No Meal Site in Dec. 6:00pm MOC Reserved 7:00pm Preschool meeting	6	6:30pm Boy Scouts(MOC/FH) 7:00pm Prayer Group	7	8:00am 3:30pm MOC - Reserved 6:00pm Handbells 6:00pm MOC Reserved 7:30pm Choir	8	7:00pm Moravian Women	9		10	
11	9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:00am Snack-n-Yak 11:30am Youth Handbells 7:00pm Crochet Class	12	No Meal Site in Dec. 6:00pm MOC Reserved 7:00pm Joint Board meeting 7:00pm Sr. Hi Bible Study	13	6:30pm Boy Scouts(MOC/FH) 7:00pm Prayer Group	14	6:00am Men's Breakfast 3:30pm MOC - Reserved 6:00pm Handbells 6:00pm MOC Reserved 7:30pm Choir	15	7:00pm CEC	16	8:00am Preschool Program	17	10:00am MOC - Reserved
18	9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:00am Snack-n-Yak 11:30am Youth Handbells 5 PM Youth Caroling 7:00pm Crochet Class	19	No Meal Site in Dec. 6:00pm MOC Reserved	20	6:30pm Boy Scouts(MOC/FH) 7:00pm Prayer Group	21	3:30pm MOC - Reserved 6:00pm Handbells 6:00pm MOC Reserved 7:30pm Choir	22	12:00pm Unity Prayer Watch	23	6:00pm Christmas Eve Service & Candlelight 8:00pm Christmas Eve Service & Candlelight	24	
25	CHRISTMAS No Sunday School or Snack-n-Yak 10:00am Worship 11:30am MOC - Reserved 4:00pm MOC - Reserved	26	No Meal Site in Dec.	27	6:30pm Boy Scouts(MOC/FH) 7:00pm Prayer Group	28	6:00am Men's Breakfast 3:30pm MOC - Reserved 6:00pm MOC Reserved 7:30pm Choir	29		30		31	



A Child Is Born!





Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Ministry:

This year we prepared and delivered 35 boxes for this project. While we fell short of our goal we did not fall short for the 35 children who will receive one of our boxes. Thank you for your continued support of this very special mission for children.

Meetings in December:

Moravian Women will meet on Thursday, December 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Koala classroom. This is our annual business meeting to determine how the donations received from Harvest Home will be distributed. We will have a cookie recipe exchange. Please bring your favorite cookie recipe or better yet, bring samples!! Cookies and coffee will be served during the meeting.

Answers: 1-Christmas Eve, 2-Christmas Present, 3-North Pole, 4-Hoe, hoe, hoe 5-Noel, Noel, 6-Seasons' Greetings, 7-Bah! Humbug!, 8-Silent Knight, 9-Sandy Claws, 10-Christmas cards, and 11-Christmas Carols

HOPE MORAVIAN CHURCH
202 Main Street
Hope, IN 47246
Return Service Requested

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December

