

# Hope Lutheran Church

4131 Lehigh Drive, Cherryville, PA 18035-030  
(610) 767-7203 hopecherryville.org

December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

## CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Jami Possinger	ext. #12
Assistant Pastor	Rev. Brian Rajcok	ext. #13
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Clark W. Kuntz II	
Administrative Manager	Jennifer Sommers	ext. #10
Director of Music	David Ziegler	ext. #11
Treasurer	Trudy Mertz	
Sexton	Bonnie Zmyewski	
Financial Secretary	Deb Gardner	
Communications Specialist	Nina Weiss	ext. #20

## SERVICE

### PARTICIPANTS 8:00 AM 10:30 AM

	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
Acolytes	Brance Shoenberger	Aiden Carrion
Crucifers	Noah Wolfel	Felicia Paly
Greeters	Dolores Reenok	Chip Hunsicker
Lectors	Michelle Costanzo	Allison Lockard
Nursery	Reece & Jean Anderson	Bianca & Stephanie Carrion
Ushers	Kurinec Team	Leibenguth Team
AV Assistant	Reece Anderson	Jerry Mraz
Communion Assistants	John Bednar, Deb Gardner & Lori Kerper	Karen Wolfe, Sharon Kratzer, Linda Mery
Altar Guild	Team 2: Weil, Zimmermann, Schimanek, Christman; Team 3: Steiner, Green, Burns	
Percussionist	Joe Neupauer	



## LESSONS, CAROLS and COMMUNION

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

**Gathering** *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*  
*Prelude*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

\* **Gathering Song # 267 "Joy to the World"**

\* **Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Christ Candle**

Each week during the Advent season we pointed the way to Christmas through the lighting of the Advent wreath. Peace, Joy, Love, and Hope are the touchstones in our journey of preparing our hearts for the birth of the Christ Child.

P: May the candles we light today...

**C: warm us with the miracle and mystery of Jesus – the light shining in the darkness.**

P: May our lives be the light of this good news.

**C: May peace and joy and hope and love - which never come easy and are easily lost – shine through us into the darkest corners of the earth.**

P: May God's light heal our lives and the world.

**C: May this light remind us that to be in the spirit of Christmas we must be where peace needs to be born...**

P: Where joy needs to be sung,

**C: Where hope needs to be found,**

P: And where love needs to be shared.

**C: We light these candles once again in this season which reminds us how to live most fully all our days.**

P: We light these candles to proclaim the coming of the light of God into the world.

\* Prayer

**Word** *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

Reading I: The Story of Mary Luke 1:26-35

**Hymn #296 "What Child Is This"**

Reading II: The Story of Joseph Matthew 1:18-21

**Hymn #272 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" (vs 1 & 3)**

Reading III: The Story of Jesus' Birth Luke 2:1-7

**Hymn #276 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"**

Reading IV: The Story of the Angels & Shepherds Luke 2:8-20

**Hymn #289 "Angels We Have Heard on High"**

Reading V: The Story of the Magi Matthew 2:1-12

**Hymn (Insert) "We Three Kings of Orient Are" (vs 1 & 5)**

Reading VI: Lesson of Light John 1:1-14

## Hymn #292 "Love Has Come"

\* Responsive Prayer

P: On this day of Christmas

**C: Hatred will vanish**

P: On this day of Christmas

**C: The earth will flourish**

P: On this day of Christmas

**C: War will be gone**

P: On this day of Christmas

**C: Love will be born**

P: When we offer a glass of water to a thirsty person

**C: it is Christmas**

P: When we clothe a naked person with a gown of love

**C: it is Christmas**

P: When we wipe the tears from weeping eyes

**C: it is Christmas**

P: When the spirit of revenge dies in us

**C: it is Christmas**

P: When in our hearts we no longer want to stay apart

**C: it is Christmas**

P: When we are living fully for the God of love

**C: it is Christmas**

\* Peace

**Meal** *God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

Offering/Offerory

\* **Offertory Response #278 "Away in a Manger" (vs 1 & 3)**

\* Offering Prayer

\* Great Thanksgiving p 190

\* Holy, Holy, Holy p 190

\* The Lord's Prayer p 191

"Lamb of God..." p 191

Communion (*intinction*)

(*gluten free wafers in the chalice in front of the baptismal font*)

\* Blessing

\* Post Communion Canticle **"Angels, from the..." # 275**  
(vs 1 & 4)

\* Post Communion Prayer

**Sending** *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

\* Benediction

\* **Sending Hymn #288 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"**

\* Dismissal

*\*please stand if you are able*

**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**4131 Lehigh Drive, Cherryville, PA 18035**  
**610-767-7203 | hopecherryville.org**  
**December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

**CORE PURPOSE STATEMENT:**

*People of Hope: working together, with God, to love and serve others...*

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** ☩ In Celebration of Kim & Ron Roth's Birthdays, with Love from their families; In Celebration of a new year with bright opportunities and blessings in God's beautiful world, the Belletti Family.

**BULLETINS:** ☩ In sincere appreciation for the Ushers who help count the offerings each week. Thanks so much, Trudy.

**THE PRESS:** ☩ In Memory of loved ones.

**IN PRAYER TODAY:** St. John, Slatington, The Rev. Russel F. Haab

**STATISTICS:** Last Sunday's attendance; 9:00 am service – 224/ 4:00 pm service – 250/ 6:00 pm service – 172/ 8:30 pm service – 340/ 11:00 pm service – 132; **Total offering - \$24,994.26;** (includes **\$222.00** for the building fund).

**THANK YOU:** To all Worship Assistants who volunteered during this busy holiday season! We thank you all for your continued support and sharing of your talents to help worship service here at Hope Church run so smoothly!!!

**BLOOD DRIVE:** We are hosting a Miller Blood Drive on January 28<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 am to 1:00 pm. You will be able to sign-up after worship services on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. You can also sign-up online, here is the link: [www.giveapint.org](http://www.giveapint.org); use the Sponsor Code: 0288.

**COUNCIL INSTALLATION:** We will be installing our new Council at both worship services on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018!

**NEW MEMBER CLASS:** If you know of someone who is interested in becoming a member of Hope Church, please invite him or her to our new member classes, which will begin in January 2018. Classes will be held from 9:15 - 10:15 am on the following Sundays; January 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018. New members will be received during worship services on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL & CONFIRMATION CLASS UPDATES:** Please note there **will be** Sunday School & Confirmation Class today, December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 at 9:15 am.

**CHRISTMAS WORSHIP CLEAN-UP:** Please come out on Thursday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 8:00 am to help put away the Christmas decorations. Any help is greatly appreciated.

**COFFEE WITH COUNCIL:** Will be held on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am in Kuntz Hall. Members are invited to meet with Council representatives for questions and conversation.

**WELCA NEWS:** WELCA will be hosting Robin Morrison to hear the second part of her presentation on her trip to India. This will be held in Kuntz Hall at 10:00 am on January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018. This presentation will be followed with a light lunch. Please sign-up on the sheet located in the Narthex.

**SPONSORSHIP CHARTS:** Please note the Sponsorship Charts for 2018 are up and located in the Narthex. Please take a moment to select your sponsorship dates for Flowers, Bulletins and The Press. Should you have any questions, please contact Jennifer in the Church Office at 610-767-7203.

**PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK** – The Congregational Council is encouraging all our members to grow in their spirituality through a regular Prayer Life. One way of doing this is by lifting up in prayer one family from our church each day of the year. This week's families are:

12/30/17	Beverly Goll and family
12/31/17	Eugene Gower and family

**EVANGELISM COMMITTEE:** Will meet Thursday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:00 pm. At this meeting we will discuss the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Nativity Display and we will also make plans for 2018. So we will need your ideas and suggestions for 2018 to help this committee continue to move forward and further serve our God, our church family and our community. We definitely need more people to serve on this committee. We only meet once a month on the first Thursday of each month. Won't you consider being a part of this committee? For more information on the Evangelism Committee of Hope Church, please contact Sharyn Kratzer at 610-261-1277. Even if you cannot attend our monthly meetings, do not hesitate to pass on your ideas and suggestions that might add to making this a stronger functioning committee serving God.

## **ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING**

Thank you for all you do to support our mission during the holidays and throughout the year. As you plan for the new year, please consider additional giving to your church. For your convenience, we offer electronic giving options for one-time gifts and recurring contributions. Visit the church website at [www.hopecherryville.org](http://www.hopecherryville.org) and locate the Online Giving page.



**Simply scan this code with your device.**

*\*you may need to download a free QR reader app first!*

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES:** 1st Holy Communion Classes will begin January 7th. Holy Communion classes are open to current 5th grade students and any student in 6th, or 7th grade who did not receive the Communion Preparedness Classes. Classes will be held each week from January 7, 2018 through March 4, 2018. There are nine Sundays to get the children prepared, they must attend at least six times. Make-up work will be required for any missed classes. 1st Holy Communion will be on March 11, 2018 at the 10:30 service. There will be a reception with cake and beverages following the service. Rehearsal will be held March 10, 2018 at 9:30 until 11:00 in the sanctuary. There is a \$15.00 donation requested for each student to help defray material cost and can be given to the teachers. Please contact the church office with any questions at 610-767-7203.

**BIBLE STUDY:** A new Bible study entitled "*THE TEN COMMANDMENTS*" written by Rob Suggs will begin Thursday January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7:00 pm. This is a twelve week study guide with the first study entitled "Laying Down the Law" which will be a study of Exodus 20. Please know that you do not need to be a Bible scholar in order to enjoy this group as we are all growing and learning God's Word together. This Bible study group is an informal study and discussion group. Everyone is invited and welcome to attend our Thursday evening Bible study group. For more information, please contact Sharyn Kratzer at 610-261-1277. No sign-up is necessary, just come to the second grade classroom and join into group. We hope to see you there!

**NORTHAMPTON COUNTY FOOD BANK NEWS:** Volunteers are invited to the annual gathering for dinner at Prime Steak House on Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:30 pm. Each person is billed separately for their preferred entrée. Reservation is required, so if you are interested in attending, please contact Pam at 610-439-4814. Additionally, the annual Bingo/Gift Card fundraiser will be held on Super Bowl Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Tickets costs \$20/person. To purchase tickets, please contact Linda Sidor at 610-767-8372 or Pam at 610-439-4814.

**WELCA NEWS:** We are collecting items for Back Packs for the Allentown Rescue Mission. We are asking for all items to be brought to the church by January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018. There will be a box marked and located in the Narthex for the collected items. Items we are requesting:

- \*Daily journals
- \*Pens/Pencils
- \*Note pads
- \*Hats
- \*Pocket Bibles
- \*Water Bottle
- \*Gloves
- \*Scarves
- \*Toiletries (Travel Size)
- \*Nutritional Snack Bars
- \*Hand warmers

We thank you all in advance for your generosity and continued support!

**CHURCH DIRECTORY** – Put names with faces and be a part of our new church family directory. We are partnering with Lifetouch to tell our story. These very convenient photographs will be taken at the church. The directory will not be complete without you! Remaining Portrait dates are as follows:

- \*Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> through Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup>: 2 pm – 9 pm
- \*Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup>: 10 am – 5 pm

**APPOINTMENTS:** visit our online link at:

<https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/y7jpqtvq/>

**IS THERE CHURCH:** If the weather is extremely bad on any given Sunday, and you are wondering if Sunday Church School, worship services, or evening activities are cancelled, please check WFMZ either online or TV or check our website at [www.hopecherryville.org](http://www.hopecherryville.org).

**WELLNESS TEAM NEWS:** The next blood pressure screening will be held on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 following worship in Kuntz Hall.

**GIVING:** Please catch up with your 2017 commitment or intended giving by the end of December or give an extra gift before the end of the year. Let's keep Hope's ministries strong! All 2017 offerings must be received or postmarked on or before December 31<sup>st</sup> 2017 to receive credit for this year. Any offerings received on or after January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 MUST be credited as 2018 contributions.

**DID YOU RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION THIS YEAR?** Did you complete the hospitality pad indicating you received Holy Communion? If you didn't or you're not sure, please complete the Hope hospitality pad next time you receive communion. Our constitution requires active members to receive communion one time per year.

**YOUTH GROUP REMINDERS:** Mark your calendar for the following dates:

- \*January 10<sup>th</sup>: POW 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm; Meet at Hope for pizza, games & devotions, then off to Emmanuelsville for worship.
- \*January 26<sup>th</sup>: Snow Tubing at Blue Mountain; Meet at Hope at 5:00 pm and be back at 9:30 pm.
- \*January 21<sup>st</sup>: National Youth Gathering Meeting at 11:30 am in Kuntz Hall



## REMINDER TO WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

<b>Sunday, January 7th, 2018</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>
<b>Acolyte</b>	Arianna Patterson	Emily McCutcheon
<b>Crucifer</b>	Thomas Spohn	Samuel Koplín
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Barry Ritter, Terry Ritter & Betty Rock	
<b>Greeter</b>	Betty Rock	Betty Krupa
<b>Lector</b>	Chris Steigerwalt	Doug Daniel
<b>Nursery</b>	Ashely & Stephanie Patterson	Ryan & Barbara McCutcheon
<b>Ushers</b>	Kaspérn Team	Amey Team
<b>AV Assistants</b>	Charles Kutzler	
<b>January Altar Guild</b>	Team 4: Koplín and Scott	
<b>Jan. Sign Changers</b>	Doug Daniel	

**CALENDAR OF THE WEEK:** For complete rehearsal schedules, see the online calendar at [calendar.hopecherryville.org](http://calendar.hopecherryville.org):

<b>Today</b>	Sunday School Confirmation Class	9:15 am 9:15 am
<b>Monday</b>	Church Office Closed	
<b>Tuesday</b>	Pastor's Pericope Study – Kuntz Hall Pictorial Directory – Kuntz Hall	8:30 am 2:00 pm–9:00 pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Soup Group & Delivery – Kuntz Hall Staff Meeting Centering Prayer Pictorial Directory – Kuntz Hall	9:00 am 10:00 am 2:00 pm 2:00 pm–9:00 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Decorating Crew – Sanctuary Pastor's Bible Study Pictorial Directory – Kuntz Hall Evangelism Committee Meeting Property Committee Meeting	8:00 am 10:00 am 2:00 pm–9:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm
<b>Friday</b>	Pictorial Directory – Kuntz Hall	2:00 pm–9:00 pm
<b>Saturday</b>	Pictorial Directory – Kuntz Hall	10:00 am–5:00 pm
<b>Next Sunday</b>	Council Installation Blood Drive Sign-ups Sunday School Youth Leader Meeting	Both Services 9:00 am 9:15 am 11:45 am