

October

HOPE HOME NEWS

Hope Lutheran Church
Cherryville, PA

Volume XXXV No. 8

October, 2008

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday, October 5th PENTECOST 21

World-wide Communion/Friendship Sunday

8 am and 10:30 am Holy Communion

This is a special day with many "friendly" surprises!

Bring a friend!

Sunday, October 12th PENTECOST 22

Service of Healing

8 am Service of the Word 10:30 am Holy Communion

Sunday, October 19th PENTECOST 23

Harvest Home Sunday (see below)

8 a.m. Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Service of the Word

Sunday, October 26th REFORMATION SUNDAY

8 am Service of the Word 10:30 am Holy Communion

HARVEST HOME SUNDAY – Sunday, October 19th

Harvest Home will be celebrated at both worship services that day. All are encouraged to bring canned food items (examples: applesauce, jello, pudding, soups, tuna, vegetables, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, peanut butter, etc) to the church on or before Sunday the 19th. Paper bags will be available on Sunday October 12th for these items. Our food donations will be taken to the Northampton Area Food Bank. Monetary gifts will also be donated to the Food Bank.



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
4131 LEHIGH DRIVE, P O BOX 1030
CHERRYVILLE, PA 18035
610-767-7203

www.hopecherryville.org

The Rev. Clark W. Kuntz, II, Pastor Emeritus
Our Mission as a congregation is... "to witness to the love of God through both words and actions so that we may make others aware of God's claim on their lives and in so doing, seek to become more perfectly the Body of Christ in the world."

INTERIM PASTOR

The Rev. Denton R. Kees

(h) 570-424-2485

PASTORAL ASSISTANT

Mr. Ernie Siegfried

ernie@hopecherryville.org

(h) 610-759-5739

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Linda Mery, President

Dennis Biechy

Arnold Kuntz

Tim Moore

Vicki Steiner

Marge Zimmermann

Greg Demko, Vice Pres.

Andrea Hetrick

Jean Leibenguth, Sec.

Donald Saunders

Ed Tretiak

John Zmyewski

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Mr. David R. Ziegler

organist@hopecherryville.org

(h) 610-262-9197

SECRETARY

Mrs. Jane Tretiak

office@hopecherryville.org

SEXTON

Mrs. Audrey Rosario

TREASURER

Ms. Trudy Mertz

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Mrs. Deb Gardner

CHURCH OFFICE

Mon., Wed., Thurs. Fri.

8:00am-3:30pm

Closed Tuesdays

GRACEDALE TALENT NIGHT

Gracedale talent night will be on Monday, October 6th at 7:00 pm. We will leave the church at 6:15 pm. **If you, or your child, or grandchild, would like to share talent with a very appreciative audience, please let Marge Zimmermann know (610-767-8901).** Cookies, brownies, and snacks are also needed for this visit and can be dropped off in the vestibule area before that evening. Thanks! (*catechetical students – this would count as a social ministry/outreach event!*)



SENIOR FALL FEAST

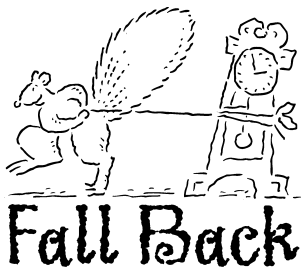
On Saturday, November 15th the Social Ministry Committee invites any senior citizen or homebound member in our congregation to our annual Fall Feast. We will begin with worship of Holy Communion in the church at 11:30am, and then enjoy a dinner of turkey, filling, cranberry sauce and all the "fixins." To conclude the day, there will be surprise guest entertainment. The Feast will end at approximately 2:30pm. Sign up sheet will be posted on the narthex bulletin board,

GERANIUM THANK YOU

Thank you to Bob Wescott for watering the geraniums and cleaning out the flower beds this year. The geraniums were beautiful during the summer and looked great when driving by Hope Church. Thank you again for your participation in helping to make our church more beautiful.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Please note: Daylight Savings Time ends on November 2nd this year. Please don't forget to turn your clocks back one-hour before retiring on the evening of November 1st.



CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES

September 8, 2008



President Mery opened the meeting and Donald Saunders led devotions.

Secretary minutes and treasurer's report for July/August were read and approved.

Pastor's Report: His last 17 days at Hope Church were filled with shut-in visits, baptisms, weddings, several farewell lunches with staff.

Pastoral Assistant's Report: Busy month with visits to shut-ins, hospitals and funerals.

Youth: no report.

Social Ministry: Good Shepherd visit on Sunday, September 21, 2008. Gracedale Talent night on Monday, October 6, 2008.

Worship & Music: no report.

Property: replace thermostats, sound system on hold, removed some shrubs around the church.

Stewardship: no report.

Evangelism: Friendship Sunday in October.

Christian Ed.: 300 students registered for Sunday School.

As of October 1, 2008 we will welcome our interim pastor. His name is Pastor Denton Kees.

Next Meeting: Monday, October 13, 2008

The Congregational Council is encouraging all of 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. *Psalm 55:17 – Evening, morning and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud; and He shall hear my voice!*

OCTOBER PRAYER LIST

10/01/08 Kristen Walsh and family
10/02/08 Gwen Gibson and family
10/03/08 Lynn, Tyler Ujvary and family
10/04/08 Daniel, Katherine, Juliana Medei and family
10/05/08 Stacey Miller and family
10/06/08 Marcus Solt and family
10/07/08 Donald, Marsha Zellner and family
10/08/08 E. Thomas Raber and family
10/09/08 Carl Nemeth and family
10/10/08 Francis, David, Stephanie Haggerty and family
10/11/08 Elizabeth Krupa and family
10/12/08 Douglas, Debbie, Curtis Riedy and family
10/13/08 Edward Cherry and family
10/14/08 Howard, Cynthia, Brittany Grube and family
10/15/08 Gary, Constance Nagy and family
10/16/08 Richard, Gloria Cole and family
10/17/08 Wayne, Sharon, Laurie, Mark Weidner and family
10/18/08 Herbert, Karen, Matthew Fries and family
10/19/08 Earle, Jasmine, Jade Neff and family
10/20/08 Matthew, Mitchell, Christian Solt and family
10/21/08 Pamela, Katlyn Rehrig and family
10/22/08 Luann, Krista Smith and family
10/23/08 Eileen Miller and family
10/24/08 Marion Hall and family
10/25/08 Dennis, Nancy, Scott, Katie Biechy and family
10/26/08 Brian, Sharon, Erin, Allison Schell and family
10/27/08 Shannon Ervin and family
10/28/08 Brian, Jean Leibenguth and family
10/29/08 Viola Neff and family
10/30/08 Karen Grube and family
10/31/08 Eugene Gower and family

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Members and friends of Hope Church, Thank you, thank you, thank you! We were overwhelmed by your tribute at my retirement dinner. Thanks to all who attended and those who planned the wonderful evening. Several people have said that it was the nicest retirement dinner they had ever attended. I agree! Thank you for the gifts including the beautiful rocking chair, the glass sail boat, wonderful video presentation, monetary gift of \$5,000.00, the gift certificates for Maureen, and the honor of being named as Pastor Emeritus of Hope Church. Thank you for your many individual gifts, beautiful words, cards and notes of appreciation, congratulations and best wishes. Your kindness and generosity...all are most appreciated. Words are inadequate to convey the full measure of our gratitude to you. However, your greatest gift has come to us time and time again--your friendship, wrapped in warmth and laughter and love. It is still not quite real to me that I am not only parting from you but actually retired. Where have these 22 years gone...37 of ordained ministry!

Thank you again from the depth of our hearts! You have been and are a wonderful people! We love you! Fondly,

Clark and Maureen Kuntz

Dear Hope Church; Thank you all for your prayers and cards during my hospitalization and recuperation at home. I also appreciated the visits from Pastor Kuntz and Ernie who provided me with love and support. I truly appreciate all the wonderful people at Hope Lutheran Church. God Bless,

Connie Nagy

Dear Hope Church, I would like to thank you for the scholarship check that I recently received. It will definitely come in handy when I go to purchase my textbooks. I am really looking forward to my senior year at the University of Delaware. Thank you again for your support and prayers.

Sincerely,

Ryan S. Wilson





THANK YOU NOTES CONTINUED...

Just a quick thank you to Hope Lutheran Church! Thank you so much for the college scholarship that I have been awarded for the second year now! I am a junior at Wilkes University, and am majoring in Psychology and History, and am working towards a Pennsylvania Secondary Education Certificate. The money is so helpful!

Everyone knows how expensive college can be, and I am lucky to be part of our church community that gives so much, monetary and otherwise. The money goes right into my college fund, which we use to pay all sorts of things from tuition to books and housing. Thank you again, I am very appreciative!

Rachel Tretiak

Dear Pastor Kuntz and Hope Church, just a short note to thank you very much for the generous scholarship I received a few weeks ago. I have used the money to purchase books for the 1st semester of my Junior Year at Millersville University. I am dual majoring in Special Education and Elementary Education and the scholarships that I receive from Hope Lutheran Church, certainly help me with the many expenses in college! Again, thank you for your generosity. Sincerely,

Lauren Thompson

Dear Hope Church, thank you so very much for your many thoughts and prayers, cards, calls, memorial gifts, visits and baskets of flowers you gave in loving memory of Stanley Knappenberger. Thank you also to everyone who helped with the beautiful funeral luncheon. We appreciated everything in this most tragic time in our lives. God Bless you all!

Grace Knappenberger & Family
Roxanne and Dennis Marunich & Family
Juanita and Todd Benner & Family



THANK YOU NOTES CONTINUED...



We would like to thank the Hope Fest committee for donating the proceeds of this year's festival to Ryan. Needless to say, we were very touched by their generosity. Thank you to the Basket Committee for their donation from the jewelry sale, which was held during Hope Fest. We hope and pray we can all be at Hope Fest 2009. Also, thank you to the 5th grade Sunday school class for the get well cards they made for Ryan, it meant a lot to him. Thank you to the yard sale committee for donating this year's proceeds to Ryan. Again, words cannot express how much we feel about the generosity of Hope's congregation. We appreciate the continued love and support and prayers during this time. We hope we can all participate in next year's yard sale. And, thank you all for your continued love and support and prayers for Ryan and his family, during this time.

Cathy, Ryan, Sarah Bird
Jim and Deb Gardner

PASTORAL ACTS

FUNERALS

Ernie Siegfried officiated at the following funerals.

Stanley A. Knappenberger entered eternal life on September 2, 2008 at the age of 70 years. Services were held at Hope Church with interment at Indianland Cemetery.



Joyce F. Itterly entered eternal life on September 18, 2008 at the age of 80 years. Graveside services were held at Green Mount Cemetery, Bath.

FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR...

Dear friends....to be:

I put my initial greeting to you this way, as I've not met many of you, so we are not really friends, not yet that is. However, those members (church council, some staff, and a few others) that I have met and chatted with, lead me to believe that our time together in this interim ministry (the time between settled, permanent pastors) has great promise. I believe this interim ministry here at Hope has God's favor, if you will. God is already blessing it.

Thus, I look forward to ministry with you. The Bishop has made this appointment and after some discussion on September 8, your church council approved it. There is work to be done and together with our Lord's guidance we will do it.

You very likely want to know "why and interim ministry?" Why don't we just get moving on finding a new Pastor to replace Pastor Kuntz and get on with our church life?

That's a good question and there is a straightforward answer to it. The Church has learned over the many years that when a long-term pastor leaves a congregation, there are some dynamics that will be "lived through" in the congregation. They will be experienced even if they are not identified. There are actually developmental tasks that the congregation needs to address and work through – I will identify and describe them in future newsletter columns and in meetings around the congregation – to deal with the dynamics in a congregation experiencing a pastoral change.

These dynamics occur in all changes of pastoral leadership, and they occur whether or not there is an interim minister in place. This is most clearly seen when in many, if not most cases even

Continued on the next page...

FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR CONTINUED...

at the conclusion of a long, healthy pastoral ministry, such as you've had here with the leadership with Pastor Kuntz, the next call lasts only 2 to 5 years. In effect, the next call has become an interim call. The next Pastor and congregation have had to work through the dynamics and tasks, often with neither of them realizing it. That ministry time is usually disappointing and frustrating to the pastor and to the congregation. Both end up angry with each other and blaming the synod placement staff for not telling them enough about each other. That doesn't have to happen. I look forward to working with you on the tasks awaiting our attention.

Another reason for my interest in Hope is the opportunity to work in ministry with a friend of around 30 years, your lay assistant, Ernie Siegfried. We are compatible; we are ready to work together. Ernie has been quite hospitable, as we have already talked about Hope congregation and my time here. We've begun discussing ministry tasks, assignments and opportunities at Hope for each of us.

At Hope, I will be part-time; half-time to be more exact. That means I will be here, on average two and a half days a week, plus Sundays. Ernie will share preaching responsibilities with me as he has with Pastor Kuntz.

And please know that I am available to all and any member at any time of the day. My telephone numbers will be published. I live in Stroudsburg, but I know my way down here and will come whenever that is necessary.

Looking forward to seeing you in worship, in meetings and ministry, and out and about, I am your brother in Christ.

Pastor Denton R. Kees

FROM THE PASTORAL ASSISTANT...

When Pastor Kuntz announced his retirement, the reaction of some of our members was predictable. A number of you called or stopped by the office to express concern about Hope's future without the leadership and guidance of our beloved pastor. Your love and respect for Pastor Kuntz were often reflected in the question, "how will we make it without him?" I tried my best to reassure those concerned individuals that Pastor Kuntz had laid a firm foundation upon which we could continue to build and grow this congregation. As a result of his and your cooperative efforts and faithful commitment to our God and his people, Hope Lutheran is a solid congregation that I personally believe is healthy and alive in Jesus Christ. It is also one of which I am immensely proud to serve.

For the past month, as I tried to stay on top of things, I acknowledged that your help is needed. Proof of your willingness to take an active role became evident when I called for volunteers to visit our homebound members. Within hours, seventeen of you came forward and offered to make those visits. This is a ministry critical to the health of the congregation; that we continue to let these members know that they're important and that we care about them.

And, other things have been happening also, without even being asked, two of our highly qualified teachers informed me that they would take responsibility for the confirmation retreat. Our youth planned and carried out a very successful "Survivor Night." I am pleased to see and hear the beautiful voices of new and returning choir members. Another member has taken the leadership role of the God and Country program. And many faithful Sunday School teachers have returned to their classes after the summer recess. I extend sincere thanks to all of you for your ministry.

Continued on the next page...

FROM THE PASTORAL ASSISTANT CONTINUED...

And now, we're entering an exciting and important step toward eventually filling the pastoral vacancy created by Pastor Kuntz's retirement. Please look for the article in this newsletter written by The Rev. Denton Kees, our newly appointed interim pastor. Both Pastor Kuntz and I have known Pastor Kees for many years and know him to be a personable and caring pastor and we have total confidence in his ability to lead us into a new era.

May God bless Pastor Kees and all of us in the coming months.

PASTOR KUNTZ NAMED PASTOR EMERITUS

In honor and recognition of Pastor Kuntz's long and faithful ministry at Hope, the congregation council has named him Pastor Emeritus. This is an honorary title, which carries with it no responsibilities or pastoral duties. Pastor Kuntz's name and this new title will be carried on Sunday worship bulletins, newsletters, and other communications as appropriate.

FELLOWSHIP HALL RENAMED KUNTZ HALL

Also, the council voted to rename the Fellowship Hall, Kuntz Hall, which also is in celebration of Pastor Kuntz's long and faithful service of ministry at Hope Church. New signs indicating the changes are being made and will be hung in the appropriate places when they arrive.



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, On behalf of the Board of Directors of Lutheran Congregational Services, Inc. and the persons whom we serve, I want to thank you for your contribution of \$1,000.00.

We Lutherans do a great job of responding to the physical and material needs of our neighbors, both near and far away, but we are less willing to speak out in an effort to address the systemic issues that often cause and promote the needs we so readily work to address. On Saturday, November 1, 2008 at Union Lutheran Church, Schnecksville, Lutheran Congregational Service is proud to be joining with the Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania, the ELCA Mission Investment Fund, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod and Micah 6:8 (a group of Lutherans committed to justice) to sponsor ***Jesus Calls Us to Action*** – an event designed to encourage more of our Lutheran voices to speak out for and with those for whom the world has little regard.

Jesus Calls Us to Action is for all rostered leaders, congregational members, social ministry and/or service teams and other disciples of Christ who want to learn more about how they can become agents for change in their communities, state, nation and world. The registration form can be downloaded at LCS' website www.lutherancongregationalservices.org.

May God who called us out into the world through our baptism into Christ continue to bless your ministry and the ministry of the people of Hope Church. Together we are making a good and faithful witness in the world.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Dr. Dennis S. Ritter
President and CEO

2008 FALL BASKET SOCIAL INVITATION

YOU ARE INVITED to attend the Fall Walk-in Basket Social on **Friday, October 10, 2008**, to be held in the social hall (Kuntz Hall) of Hope Lutheran Church. **Proceeds** will be donated to the Hope Church Building Maintenance Fund.



Doors open at 4 p.m. and tickets may be purchased until 7:15 p.m. The drawing begins at 7:30 p.m. Winners will be notified via phone that same evening. The cost of a ticket is \$5 at the door per adult and \$3 per child age K through 6th grade. Refreshments will be sold.

Special thanks to ticket sponsors Arnold & Joanne Kuntz, Vince & Judy Dieter, Rapid Return (Betty Rock), and Horace & Linda Obert.

We also invite you to help with this event by donating a theme basket, gift certificate, bottled water, canned soda, or baked good. Any of these items may be dropped off in the fellowship hall the evening before the social (Thursday, October 9th, from 6:30-8:30 p.m.).

Questions should be directed to the Hope Church Office by calling 610.767.7203.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will match funds raised up to \$200.00.

Thank you! The Basket Committee looks forward to seeing you on Oct. 10th!

Sincerely,

Rita Hulsizer & Jean Leibenguth, co-chairs for the Fall Social
The Basket Committee of Hope Lutheran Church

MILITARY ADDRESSES

If you know of a member of our church who is serving in any of the armed forces, please call the church office. With the holiday season just around the corner, we would like to update our military addresses. Thank you!



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Mark your calendars for our Annual Congregational Meeting to be held on Sunday, November 9th, immediately following the late worship service. At least 50 members (in good standing) are needed for a quorum that morning. Please sign the sheet on the narthex bulletin board indicating that you are able to attend. Thank you!

HEALING SERVICE

On Sunday, October 12th we will celebrate St. Luke's Evangelist Day. You will be invited to come to the altar during the prayers that morning for the "laying on of hands and anointing." This rite is based on examples provided by Jesus Christ as he performed acts of healing and also on traditions practiced by the early church. (*James 5:14-15*)



NATIVITY DISPLAY

Mark your calendars now for the beautiful and meaningful nativity display, which will be shown in the fellowship hall on Saturday, November 29th and Sunday, November 30th. The more nativity sets we have, the more beautiful the display. Watch for updated information in future bulletins and newsletters. Even if your nativity set has been on display in previous years, we would still like to include your nativity set(s) in our display. Thank you! Donations of baked goods would be greatly appreciated.



USHERS' MEETING

Our annual ushers' meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, October 19th at 9:15am.** All ushers are asked to attend this meeting to review usher responsibilities, address concerns and be updated on any changes. If you are unable to attend, please make sure at least one member of your usher team is present. Thank you for your volunteer service to Hope Church.



RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED



The following persons were hospitalized from August 26th through September 29th: *Betty Billig, William Reichard, *Joyce Itterly, John Schuon, Delores Derhammer, Ryan Bird, Nellie Krock, Robert Heffelfinger, Dale Beers and Stacy Herman-Benninger.* Please keep these persons and their families in your prayers. **deceased*

UPDATE OUR CHURCH RECORDS

If your address and phone number has changed or you have never completed an informational form for Hope Church, please go online at www.hopecherryville.org and fill out the informational form so that we have your complete and most updated information. Forms are also available in the church office.



OFFERING ENVELOPES



You should have received your new supply of offering envelopes in the mail. If you have not received them or you have any questions or concerns, please call the church office.

FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY
WORLD WIDE COMMUNION

Will be celebrated at both worship services on Sunday, October 5, 2008.

This is a wonderful opportunity to encourage your family and friends to worship with your church family at Hope.

It is also a great chance to encourage church members to come back to worship.

A coffee hour will follow after the services.

Donations of baked goods and snack foods are welcomed!!



BEAR CREEK CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

The following youth were presented with a small scholarship at the beginning of each worship service on Sunday, September 28th. Congratulations to the following youth for attending Bear Creek Camp this summer. Emily Andrews, David Deiter, Devin Deiter, Hayden Kramer, Emily Nichols, Cory Ninos, Logan Ninos, Sarah Ninos, Joshua Roth and Noah Roth. Did we miss you???? Anyone else who attended Bear Creek Camp and is interested in the scholarship, please notify the church office as soon as possible. Thank you!

WEIGHT GROUP



Our weight class here at Hope Church meets on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:45pm. The class meets in the FIRST LEVEL CONFIRMATION classroom downstairs. ALL ARE WELCOME. All weights are kept confidential. Persons attending the weight class are asked to donate \$3.00 per meeting (if you are able), which is used to help our church and our community; also please bring a canned food item with you

each week to be donated to the Northampton Food Bank. For more information, please contact Sharyn Kratzer at 610-261-1277.

BIBLES FOR THIRD GRADERS



Hope Church presented Bibles to the following third graders during one of the worship services on September 21st.

Mason Bunce, Lily Fasching, Conner Frey, Carolyn Frohnheiser, Nicholas Hankee, Ashley Hildebrand, Shaye Kerper, Gabrielle Kowalchuk, Samantha Lambert, Molly Laury, Annelise Lutz,

Shelby Millheim, Tori Millheim, Samantha Molitoris, Elizabeth Moore, Morgan Mullen, Logan Ninos, Justin Nixon, Bailey Patterson, Stephen Penchishen, Noah Roth, Katerina Sawickij and Carlie Small. *It is Hope's prayer that this gift given to each student may fill him/her with faith, virtue, knowledge, moderation, patience and godliness.*

FALL CRAFT FAIR

A craft fair will be held on Saturday, October 25th from 9:00am-3:00pm at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 1335 Old Carriage Road, Northampton, PA. Quality crafters, delicious baked goods, home cooked foods and a raffle. Questions, please call the church at 610-262-9517.

SENIOR CENTER NEWS

FLU SHOTS

Monday, October 27th beginning at 12:15pm.

DRIVER'S TRAINING

Tuesday, October 28th & Thursday, October 30th from 1:00-5:00pm. The cost is \$10.00. Must attend both classes to qualify for insurance discounts.

Call Edith Knauss, director of the Cherryville Senior Center at 610-767-2977 with questions.

JUICE CANS

Empty, clean juice cans are needed for our altar flowers. Please place them in the narthex.

YOU CAN HELP! Can you give one hour per month? As you might imagine, since Pastor Kuntz retired the staff of Hope has experienced a significant increase in work. Visitation of our shut-in members is a critical ministry that must be maintained. We need 20 individuals to **visit one shut-in each month**



for about an hour. These are easy, yet important visits. These are not hospital or nursing home visits. All these visits are made to the individual home. An hour of conversation, TV, cards, puzzles, Bible reading with one of our shut-ins would be a wonderful gift for a person who is confined to their home. If you can help, please speak with Ernie.

Can You Spare A Drop?



RECENT BLOOD DONORS

The following members of Hope Church have recently donated blood to the Miller Memorial Blood Center; Chris Steigerwalt, Stanley Royer, Daniel Husser, Peggy Holtzinger, Lynn

Patterson, and Renny Frisch. *Thank you to all of our faithful donors. Please help by calling the blood center today at 610-691-5850 or 1-800-223-6667.*

HOPE LUTHERAN NURSERY SCHOOL

Is accepting registrations for the 2009-2010 school year. Children must be 3 or 4 years of age by September 1st. Call Deb Gable at 610-767-7523 for more information or to register.

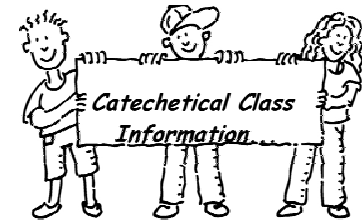
HOPE CHURCH YOUTH GROUP

Monthly events will be held for our youth who are in grades 7 through 12. Watch weekly bulletins and the Youth Bulletin Board for dates and times of upcoming events. A special Halloween event will be the next get together! Don't miss out on the fun!



CATECHETICAL CLASS UPDATE

★All confirmation students are reminded that they should be attending church (attendance slips are in each church bulletin) and Sunday Church School on a **regular** basis. In addition they must fulfill their assigned duties as worship assistants (acolyte, usher, nursery, etc). It is your responsibility to find a replacement if you cannot fulfill your responsibility for Sunday and call the church office (610-767-7203) with the replacement!



★**ALSO**, there are several events in the coming months, which will fulfill the **“Outreach” requirement** for catechetics. During October, several youth are needed to help at Gracedale Talent Nite (October 6th 6:15-8:45 pm) and the Basket Party (October 10th 6:30-9:30 pm). In November about 10 youth are needed to help with the Senior Fall Feast (November 15th 11 am-2 pm) and the Nativity Display on November 29th - Sunday, November 30th. You must sign up in your Sunday School Classrooms...first come-first serve. Parents are also welcome to help with these events. Keep on top of these and DO IT NOW!!

★**LEVEL I: November 3rd** 6:45-7:30pm- Meet the Council
November 7th & 8th 7 pm-12 Noon Overnight Retreat = Apostles' Creed

★**LEVEL II: October 12th** Group will leave during Sunday School to travel to Faith Baptist Church, Allentown that morning for worship. Group will return to Hope church about noon. (Yes, you will receive church and Sunday school attendance credit).

October 19th Youth/Parent Conversations

Parents: The attendance charts are posted in the narthex – across from the bulletin boards. Please check them regularly. Let us (teachers or Bonnie Schwartz) know if there are any questions! Mistakes or omissions must be brought to our attention within a month of the activity.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 16, 2008

Join us for Worship on Sunday, November 16th as we celebrate Stewardship Sunday here at Hope Church. Prior to this day, you will receive a mailing inviting you to make a financial commitment for 2009. On Sunday, November 16th we will receive and dedicate these intentions at the altar.



A Stewardship Thought...**IF ONLY I HAD MORE...**
If only I had more, I would give more. How often we've all said that. St. Luke had something to say about this: "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much" (Luke 16:10)
If you aren't giving sacrificially with what you have, you wouldn't give sacrificially if you had more. How much you have has nothing to do with your generosity to God (Stewardship, March 2007)

CHOIR MEMBERS WANTED

The Senior Choir is in need of singing men, especially tenors and basses. In fact, our supply of men has become so limited that we have had to reduce our singing schedule to a single service each week. We hope to return to our full schedule again singing at both services, but will need more male voices in order to do that. So if you like to sing, can sing bass or tenor and enjoy learning new music, now is the time to join our Senior Choir. Of course, women are welcome at any time, too. (See David Ziegler for more information. No audition required. Now accepting Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass voices. No others need apply.)

WALNUTPORT CANAL FESTIVAL

A group from Hope Church will be making funnel cakes again this year at the Walnutport Canal Festival on Sunday, October 19th. Come out and enjoy a delicious funnel cake or some deep fried Oreo cookies. Also, enjoy the beautiful fall festival.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

START OF THE SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL YEAR

We had a very busy start to our Sunday Church School year. We have 248 students enrolled in our program plus a staff of 46. We have classes from cradle roll, age 2 or younger, through adult, with two adult classes. We are always happy to have new members enrolled into our program. Stop in the SCS office on a Sunday morning or call the church office during the week to enroll yourself or your child in our program.

OUTREACH PROJECT:

BENEFIT for the BAYOU 2: RAISING the ROOF

As in the past few years we will be doing an outreach project. As part of an effort of other congregations in our mission district, this year we will be collecting money to help build a house for a family in the Mississippi Bayou. Each student and teacher in our Sunday Church School will receive a bank and a list of suggested money to put in the bank each day. Since we had to purchase the banks **we are asking for sponsors to cover the \$100.00 cost of the banks so that all of our money can be donated to the project.** Sponsors will be listed in the next newsletter. You can put your donation in an envelope with your name on it. Mark the envelope SCS banks. Thank you for your help in covering the cost. Our **kick off** for this program will be **October 19th** during the SCS hour. We will meet in the nave and have several speakers tell us about helping in Mississippi and how the people need help.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE 2008-09 SCS YEAR

- November 30th:** Craft and Nativity Display
- December 28th:** Christmas Program during 10:30 service
- January 4th:** Christmas program snow date
- March 15th:** First Communion for fifth graders
- April 12th:** Easter Sunday; **NO SCS**
- May 10th:** Mother's Day/Father's Day Program
- May 31st:** Pentecost; Confirmation
- June 14th:** Promotion Sunday

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS ATTENDANCE AND DUTIES

Reminders for confirmation students: (1.) Don't forget to fill out the church attendance sheets and give them to Pastor Kees or Ernie as you leave the church service. (2.) If you need someone to be your sponsor because your parents cannot attend church due to their work schedule please let your teachers know or come to the SCS office to tell us and we will find someone to be your sponsor. (3.) You must find someone to replace you if you have a duty such as church nursery, crucifer, acolyte, etc. and cannot be there. It is also your duty to contact the church secretary before Friday so that she can have the correct names in the bulletin. (4.) You must attend 12 SCS classes and church services by December 28th to complete your first half obligations. Keep an eye on the charts in the narthex to make sure you are completing them.

Youth Group Events

Halloween Party: Join us for a fun filled night of Halloween Madness! We will begin by going to a haunted adventure followed by a meeting back at the church for food and games! Check the youth group board for dates and times.

Can Collections: The youth will be collecting aluminum soda cans in the beginning of November benefiting Ryan Bird. Please start saving your clean, rinsed out cans.

Any Questions or concerns, please email
youthgroup@hopecherryville.org