



HOPE HOME NEWS

Hope Lutheran Church

Cherryville, PA

Vol. XXXV No. 10 December, '08-January, '09

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

DECEMBER, 2008

Sun. Dec. 7th – Advent 2

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

Sun. Dec. 14th – Advent 3

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

Sun. Dec. 21st – Advent 4

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

Sun. Dec. 28th – Christmas 1

- 8 a.m. Holy Communion
- 10:30 a.m. SCS Christmas Program

JANUARY, 2009

Sun. Jan. 4th – Christmas 2

Installation of Council

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

Sun. Jan. 11th – The Baptism of

Our Lord

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

Sun. Jan 18th – Epiphany 2

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

Sun. Jan. 25th – Epiphany 3

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

◻ ◻ ◻ **SPECIAL ADVENT/CHRISTMAS WORSHIP** ◻ ◻ ◻

SATURDAY ADVENT WORSHIP – Each Sat. evening in Advent - the beautiful Holden Evening Prayer (5-5:30 p.m.; Nov. 30, Dec. 6, 13, & 20)

MID-WEEK CHRISTMAS COMMUNION WORSHIP – Christmas Communion Worship for our shut-in members and members unable to get to a Christmas Eve service will be held at 11:00am on Thursday, December 18th. A light luncheon will follow. Please call the church office if you need a ride.

CHRISTMAS EVE – Monday, December 24th

- 6 p.m. Family Service of Candlelight and Communion...and puppets!
- 8:30 & 11:30 p.m. Festival Services of Carols, Candlelight and Communion.

Caroling-Decorating & the Church Sunday School Christmas Program – see inside ➤

CHRISTMAS DECORATING – SOUP SUPPER – ADVENT WORSHIP

All can help decorate the church at **2:30 pm** on Saturday, **December 13th** followed by a Soup Supper (a variety brought by participants), and then Advent Evening Worship in the newly decorated nave at 5:00 pm. **Catechetical Students – this would count as a social ministry/outreach event!*

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

All ages are invited to go caroling on **Saturday night, December 13th at 5:30 pm.** We go visit as many homebound members as possible. We will leave immediately following the Advent Worship Service that evening. The homebound members especially like to see the children caroling. **Catechetical Students – this would count as a social ministry/outreach event!*



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

6:00 pm - A family/young children service of Candlelight, Carols and Communion. This service will feature puppets, and our Junior Choir.

8:30 pm and 11:30 pm - The Festival Communion Service with Candlelight and Carols. Special music by our Youth and Senior Choirs, Brass Quartet, and Hope's orchestra.



Christmas Eve SERVICES

JESSE TREE FOR ADVENT

Each day during Advent a volunteer places a symbol on the Jesse Tree in the narthex. The symbol represents one of the Bible Stories, which leads to the birth of Jesus. A scripture and prayer are included on the back of each symbol for a brief devotion before placing the symbol on the macramé tree. If you can help with this, please sign the list in the narthex.

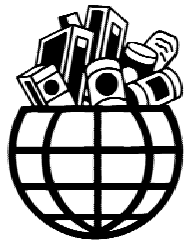


CHRISTMAS EVE CHURCH NURSERY

Christmas Eve, the nursery has scheduled helpers for the **8:30 pm worship service only**. The nursery will be open for the 6:00 pm and 11:30 pm worship service. If you feel your child needs a little break from the 6:00 or 11:30 pm service, please feel free to use the nursery, however, no helpers will be there for you to drop off your child. Thank you!

WORLD HUNGER COIN FOLDERS

Each family received a coin folder in the mail in mid-November for World Hunger. Please continue to place a quarter a day in the folder and return it to the locked box on the table in the narthex, or return it to the Advent Coin holder box on the table in the narthex before Christmas. Extra coin folders are available on the narthex table also. Return envelopes are enclosed with this newsletter. Thank you!



**WORLD
HUNGER
COIN FOLDERS**

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Hope members who were hospitalized from October 28th through December 8th were: Jonathan Distler, Anna Gardner, Alfred Steiner, Connie Nagy, Rhiannon Kocher, Louise Beers and Ryan Bird. *Please keep these persons in your prayers.*



IS THERE CHURCH?

If the weather is extremely bad on any given Sunday this winter, and you are wondering if Sunday Church School or worship services are cancelled, please check the website at www.hopecherryville.org or call our church office (610-767-7203), or listen to the radio station WAEB (AM 790).



MILLER MEMORIAL BLOOD CENTER

As the holiday season approaches, it gives us the opportunity to give thanks for family, friends and many other blessings we enjoy.

Many of us are especially thankful for the blessing of good health. The Miller Memorial Blood Center is very thankful for the many donors who are committed to donating blood because it is your generosity that saves lives. During the holiday when so many people are out of town, recruiting an adequate number of donors to meet the patient's needs is very difficult. If you can help this holiday season, please call the Miller Memorial Blood Center at 610-691-5850 or 1-800-223-6667. Thank you.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

All members of Hope Lutheran Church planning a wedding in the coming year(s) are encouraged to attend the **Marriage Preparedness Workshops** offered through Lutheran Congregational Services. More information and a schedule for 2009 are available from the church office or by calling Lutheran Congregational Services at 610-770-9205. Also, please let the church office know of your marriage date as soon as you decide and make an appointment to speak with Pastor Kees.

2008 ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE IN THE OFFICE BY JANUARY 15, 2009



**ANNUAL
REPORT**

Each group or committee meeting at Hope Church is expected to submit an Annual Report by January 15th. The report should be submitted on an 8 1/2 X 11 sheet of paper and should include past accomplishments and future goals. (An even easier way to submit your report is by email. Please send it to Jane in the church office at office@hopecherryville.org)

2008 OFFERINGS

Must be received or postmarked on or before December 31, 2008 to receive credit for 2008. Any offerings received after January 1, 2009 MUST be credited as 2009 contributions.

DID YOU RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION THIS YEAR?

Did you fill out a communion card during the year? Please fill one out the next time you receive communion (if you didn't or you're not sure). Our constitution requires active members to receive communion regularly.



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

The Senior Choir is selling poinsettias for Christmas Eve. The DEADLINE to order your poinsettias is Sunday, December 14th.



REMINDER TO POINSETTIA SPONSORS

It is appreciated if all plants could remain in the sanctuary for all three Christmas Eve services. Plants may be taken after the **11:30 pm** Christmas Eve worship service. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLES WITH RED FRILLS

Again this year we are making red frills for Christmas Eve candles. If you can help, kits are available in the narthex. **Please return completed candles no later than Sunday, December 21st. Thank you!**



WREATHS FOR SALE TO

DECORATE HOPE CHURCH



On Saturday, December 13th, when we decorate Hope for the holiday season, wreaths will be hung. Anyone wishing to sponsor a wreath in honor of or in memory of a loved one is asked to call the church office at 610- 767-7203.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS COMMUNION WORSHIP

Christmas Communion Worship for our shut-in members and members unable to get to a Christmas Eve service will be held at **11:10 am** on **Thursday, December 18th**. A light luncheon will follow. Please call the church office if you need a ride.

AFTER CHRISTMAS CLEAN-UP

Please come out on Friday, December 26th at 8:00am to help clean up the church and also put some of the Christmas decorations away. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

BAYOU BENEFIT

Our Benefit for the Bayou fundraiser was very successful. We reached our goal of \$1000.00 to help with building a house for a family in the Mississippi Bayou. If anyone still would like to give money to this very worthwhile cause, we are still accepting it. Just bring it to the Sunday Church School office. We want to thank everyone who participated in this project.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Our annual Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 28th during the 10:30 church service time. The snow date is Sunday, January 4th during the 10:30 church service. There will be refreshments after the program in Kuntz Hall. Any donations of finger food items would greatly be appreciated. They can be dropped off in Kuntz Hall up to the start of the program.

✂ _____ 2008 SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL TAX STATEMENTS

Statements to be used for income tax purposes will be given only to those who request them. Please complete the information below and have your child give this form with their offering, or phone Nancy Creyer at 610-767-8942 (leave message). Statements will be completed in January of 2009.

NAME(S) _____

ENVELOPE NUMBER _____

ANGEL TREE – PRISON FELLOWSHIP



When a parent is in prison, so are you. Your heart is locked behind a wall of loneliness. Your future is bound by shame. But Jesus came to set the captives free, and through Angel Tree you can bring the love of Christ year-round to

prisoners' kids across America. Donations can be made to reach children of prisoners year-round through Christmas, Camping and Mentoring programs. Any amount is appreciated. Send contributions to Angel Tree, P O Box 1550, Merrifield, VA 22116-1550. Thank you. (or contact Angel Tree at 1-800-55Angel or www.angeltree.org)

BEAR CREEK WINTER CAMP

DECEMBER 26-28, 2008

(For youth in grades 7-12)



Catch up with camp friends and make new ones as you experience Bear Creek Camp under a blanket of snow (hopefully). Enjoy lots of your favorite camp activities and try some you will never do at summer camp, like snowball fights with counselors and playing on the lake. Don't make Frosty mad, call your friends and make plans today to spend part of your Christmas break at Winter Camp 2008.

More information and registration forms available at www.bearcreekcamp.org

MONTHLY PRAYER NAMES FOR DECEMBER

As you pray for your fellow brothers and sisters at Hope these next two months, don't forget to forgive those that have wronged you in some way. "To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover the prisoner was you." (God's Little Devotional Book) For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. Matthew 6:14,15

December Prayer List

12/1/08 Jamie, Kaley Nawrocki and family
12/2/08 Marguerite Samuels and family
12/3/08 Thomas, Susan, Rebecca Firth, Megan Sherrer and family
12/4/08 Shawn Trone and family
12/5/08 Florence Kline and family
12/6/08 Courtney Behler, John, Tammy, Sierra Orendach and family
12/7/08 Barry, Judy, Jason, Michael Wirth and family
12/8/08 John Schaadt and family
12/9/08 Dale, Barbara, Jeffrey Schaeffer and family
12/10/08 Barron, Terry Ritter and family
12/11/08 David Kromer and family
12/12/08 Marian Druckenmiller and family
12/13/08 Cheryl Mathesz and family
12/14/08 Richard, Kathryn, Jacob, Krista Kulp and family
12/15/08 Janet, Joseph Pauker and family
12/16/08 Todd, Jennifer, Katelyn Fike and family
12/17/08 Adelaide Badura and family
12/18/08 Dennis, Linda Kressley and family
12/19/08 Henry, Miriam Burbes and family
12/20/08 Edward, Jane, Rachel Tretiak and family
12/21/08 Tommy Correa, Cynthia Sallustio and family
12/22/08 Robert, Joann, Brandi Scherer and family
12/23/08 Paul, Debra, Kailee Leibenguth and family
12/24/08 Louis, Annette Knappenberger and family
12/25/08 Alyce, Abygail Borger and family
12/26/08 Dennis, Donna, Colleen, Marissa Smith and family
12/27/08 Kelsy Rego and family
12/28/08 Greg, Linda, Andrea, Michael Dombroski and family
12/29/08 John, Karen Leibenguth and family
12/30/08 Lori Hildebrand and family
12/31/08 Trudy Mertz and family

MONTHLY PRAYER NAMES FOR JANUARY

Pray for "new beginnings"

January Prayer List

1/1/09 Arling, Marietta Love and family
1/2/09 Mark, Anna Solt and family
1/3/09 Lee, Jane Meyers and family
1/4/09 Gail Handwerk and family
1/5/09 Ralph Derhammer and family
1/6/09 Christine, David, Samantha Vinson and family
1/7/09 Catherine, Ryan, Sarah Bird and family
1/8/09 Lloyd, Loretta Moats and family
1/9/09 Todd Woodring and family
1/10/09 Michelle, Brianna Schaff and family
1/11/09 Brad Schoch and family
1/12/09 Jonathan Distler, Lorilee, Samantha Lambert and family
1/13/09 Debra Brookfield and family
1/14/09 Leauna Schaner and family
1/15/09 Antoinette Beers and family
1/16/09 Nelson, Patricia Stahley and family
1/17/09 Matthew, Tammy, Gavin, Preston, Paige Bauer and family
1/18/09 Jessica Rapchak and family
1/19/09 Patricia Schimanek and family
1/20/09 Wayne, Linda, Kristen, Stephen Mery and family
1/21/09 Lester Snyder and family
1/22/09 David, Kimberly, Noah, Joshua Roth and family
1/23/09 Andrew, Elyse, Emily, Amanda Kernan and family
1/24/09 Gene, Christina, Amanda Thrash and family
1/25/09 Richard, Diane Beil and family
1/26/09 Barry Krock and family
1/27/09 Arnold, Joanne Kuntz and family
1/28/09 Jill Schwartz and family
1/29/09 Randall Binder and family
1/30/09 Julie, Lucas, Evan Yost and family
1/31/09 Ronald, Ina Ritter and family

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 3, 2008

President Linda Mery opened the meeting and Vicki Steiner led devotions.

Secretary minutes and treasurer's report were read and approved.

Interim's Pastor's Report: Appreciated the warm welcome he received from the congregation. He has 3 baptisms on November 16, and several wedding requests for 2009 are on the calendar. He has been involved in hospital visits and is setting up homebound visits. Pastor Kees has gotten to know the staff and has weekly meetings.

Pastoral Assistant's Report: October was a month of many "special" services focused on friendship, healing, harvest home and world wide communion. Spent time on hospital visits and officiated one funeral.

Youth: held a Halloween party.

Social Ministry: Thanksgiving Feast on November 15, Ingathering on December 4th.

Worship and Music: Thanksgiving Eve services will be held on Wednesday, November 26th at 7:00pm. Families will be invited to sign up to light the Advent Wreath. Saturday evening services during Advent will be at 5:00pm, dates are Nov. 29, Dec. 6, 13 & 20. Church decorating will be on Saturday, December 13th. Christmas Eve services will be at 6:00, 8:30 and 11:30pm. Sunday School program will be held on Sunday, December 28th during the 10:30am service.

Property: need wallpaper, carpet cleaning and painting in parsonage. Shingles on church roof to be repaired.

Stewardship: Commitment cards were sent out.

Evangelism: Nativity Display will be November 29th & 30th.

Next Meeting: Monday, December 1, 2008 at 7:00pm.

FLOWER CHART

Our new flower chart for 2009 will be posted on the bulletin board in the narthex very soon. Two sponsors (**and only two**) are needed each week, at a cost of **\$15.00 per sponsor**. Sponsor envelopes are next to the chart, the sponsor money and the envelope is due in the church office two weeks before the sponsorship. A special thank you to Sis Livermon for making our flower chart.

BULLETIN CHART

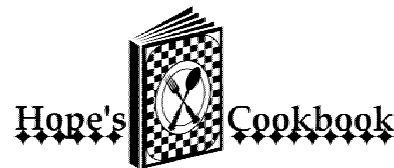
Our bulletin chart for 2009 will also be posted on the narthex bulletin board shortly. Three sponsors needed per week at a cost of \$6.00 per sponsor. Thank you to Nancy Creyer for making our bulletin chart.

DAFFODIL SUNDAY

Some notes about daffodil Sunday for 2009

1. The price of a bunch of daffodils will be \$10.00 for 10 daffodils.
2. A new vase (description not available at this time) and a bunch of daffodils will be available for \$15.00.
3. The 5th edition of the Boyds Bear, "Carrie N. Hope", will join the family in 2009. The price will still be \$25.00 and includes a bunch of daffodils.
4. Potted daffodils - 4" pot with 3 daffodil bulbs will now be available. After they bloom, you can plant them outside and enjoy them for years to come. They will be available for \$12.00.

Advertise Daffodil days all year round by visiting
www.daffodildaysstuff.com for daffodil items



HOPE CHURCH COOKBOOKS

A few cookbooks are still available. These beautiful cookbooks make great Christmas gifts. They are available in the church office. Each book sells for \$10.00.

NINTH ANNUAL NATIVITY DISPLAY

Because of the efforts contributed by many, our ninth annual display was another successful year. The Evangelism Committee would like to thank everyone for their help and support of this event.

A new appearance to our display was achieved with the use of new stands for our candy canes and extra tables that were made by Bill Fritzing and Arnold Kuntz. Thank you both. These additions certainly enhanced the beauty of the nativities displayed. The extra table space gave us more room for our nativities; without the extra tables the nativities would have been much more crowded. There were more than 375 nativities and wall hangings in this year's display. We thank everyone who shared your nativity with us for the weekend. So next year please bring them all back again! And we will also have room for many more nativities that people were not able to bring this year.

Also new to our display this year was the children's nativity center where our younger children could hear a story about the nativity and also make a nativity craft. This was a big hit for our youngsters. Thank you to Kaitlin and Cristen Doncsecz and Colleen and Marissa Smith who gave many hours during the open house helping our youngsters with the crafts and helping them learn about the birth of Jesus.

Still another change was the addition of "live" music instead of our Christmas CD's. What a beautiful addition it was. Visitors enjoyed and commented about the talents shared and how much the talents enriched this year's nativity display. When talking with some of our musicians, some are already looking forward to participating again next year. We were thankful for the talents of Tabitha Walters, Linda Derr, Mary Pritchett, Jeremy and Jessamy Zimmerman, Andrea Hetrick and Sharon Schell. (Sadly, the Carpeny brothers could not play as scheduled due to a problem with one of their instruments. So hopefully, they will return next year). And thank you to David Ziegler who helped with the scheduling of these fine musicians.

continued on the next page...

NINTH ANNUAL NATIVITY DISPLAY CONTINUED...

The fresh greens donated by Al and Adelaide Badura always add splendor to our display as do the table cloths so graciously loaned to us by Dolores Reenock.

The Evangelism Committee would like to thank everyone who spent many hours setting up the display and also cleaning up after it was over. This is a big job and requires the help of many. It could never be accomplished without the help of our volunteers. And thank you to all who contributed the delicious baked goods and snacks that our visitors enjoyed. The warmth and hospitality of Hope Lutheran Church certainly was felt by our more than 450 visitors.

Advertising for the display is also a huge job. We would like to thank the many business establishments that permitted our nativity advertisements to be displayed and also Robin Zamadics for designing our beautiful flyers. Thank you to Diane and Kenneth Silfies who faithfully take the responsibility of seeing that our wooden advertising signs get updated and put in place each year.

Thank you to the Evangelism Committee who spent many hours at the church during this weekend of our beautiful display.

A donation of \$216 was mailed to Northampton Area Food Bank. A member of Hope donated money to the Evangelism Committee for the display. As requested by the member, this money will be used to supplement decorations and lighting for next year's Nativity Display because "I just enjoy this display so much."

Our annual nativity display has become a great outreach and a wonderful ministry for our congregation and our community. Thank you again to everyone who has helped in any way. You are certainly appreciated. Many volunteers helped to make it a success. Hope Church can be very proud. Watch local papers for follow up and some pictures of the Nativity display.

Hopefully, next year---our tenth year---will be our best one yet! See you then. God Bless everyone at Hope Church. May you have a Merry Blessed Christmas.

Hope Church Evangelism Committee

THE U IN JESUS

Before U were thought of or time had begun,
God stuck U in the name of His Son.
And each time U pray, you'll see it's true,
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U.
You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,
For U, He was born; that's why He came.
And His great love for U is the reason He died.
It even takes U to spell crUcified.
Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand
He rose from the dead, with U in His plan?
The stones split away, the gold trUmpet blew,
and this word resUrrection is spelled with a U.
When JesUs left earth at His upward ascension,
He felt there was one thing He just had to mention.
'Go into the world and tell them it's true
That I love them all - Just like I love U.
So many great people are spelled with a U,
Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?
It all depends now on what U will do,
He'd like them to know,
But it all starts with U.