



HOPE HOME NEWS

Hope Lutheran Church
Cherryville, PA

Volume XXXVI No. 1

February, 2009

SUNDAY WORSHIP

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2009 EPIPHANY 4

8 a.m. Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Service of Word
Boy Scout Sunday @ 10:30am

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2009 EPIPHANY 5

8 a.m. Service of Word 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion
Paulette Obrecht's Ordination Service @ 3:00pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2009 EPIPHANY 6

8 a.m. Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Service of Word
Vow Renewal during each service
Mardi Gras "All Men's Cook Off" after each service

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2009 TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

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

* * * *

LENT BEGINS ON...

ASH WEDNESDAY February 25^h

Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes
at 11:00 a.m. and 7 p.m. (Another opportunity for ashes
from 6:00-9:00am on Ash Wednesday)

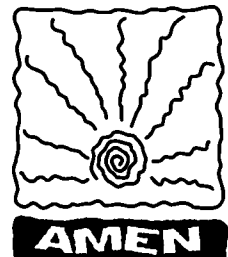
✠ *Mid-Week Worship on Wednesday March 4, 11, 18, 25
and April 1 @ 11:00 am & 7 pm. (more inside)➤*



MONTHLY PRAYER NAMES FOR FEBRUARY

(1 John 3:1, 24) From the beginning you were told that we must love each other. If we obey God's commandments, we will stay one in our hearts with him, and he will stay one with us. The Spirit that he has given us is proof that we are one with him.

- 2/1/09 Robert & Anna Taschler and family
- 2/2/09 Charles & Patricia Kobal and family
- 2/3/09 James, Sandra, Hayden & Nathaniel Kramer and family
- 2/4/09 Sharyn Kratzer and family
- 2/5/09 Hailey Strohecker and family
- 2/6/09 Louis, Linda & Lindsay Rabenold and family
- 2/7/09 Carol, Holly & Jessica Smith and family
- 2/8/09 Karle, Delores Smith and family
- 2/9/09 Chris, Jolynn, Christian, Ethan Xander and family
- 2/10/09 Robert, Bonnie Shaw and family
- 2/11/09 Tammy, Joshua Hall and family
- 2/12/09 Owen, Nicholas Karlovsky and family
- 2/13/09 Barbara Gerlach and family
- 2/14/09 Ernie, Deb Siegfried and family
- 2/15/09 Randy, Monica, Chris Martrich and family
- 2/16/09 James, Debra Gardner and family
- 2/17/09 Kathy Talbott and family
- 2/18/09 Jennifer Gerhart and family
- 2/19/09 Blasia Gaydos and family
- 2/20/09 Craig, Anita, Benjamin, Alexandra, Nikolas Kovacs and family
- 2/21/09 Justine Tracy and family
- 2/22/09 Morgan, Jordan Knox and family
- 2/23/09 William, Carla, Andrew Green and family
- 2/24/09 Donald Saunders and family
- 2/25/09 Beverly, Jenna, Shane Gessner and family
- 2/26/09 Katharine Ganovsky and family
- 2/27/09 Dylan Mabe, Brian, Makenzie Spadt and family
- 2/28/09 Jeffrey Romig and family



PASTORAL ACTS

HOLY BAPTISM

Emalee Paige Hudson, daughter of Michael and Sandy (Pioli) Hudson was baptized on January 18, 2009 during the 10:30am worship service. Pastor Kees officiated.

Please welcome Emalee into our church family here at Hope and pray for her growth in faith.



FUNERALS

Martha M. Handwerk entered eternal life on December 22, 2008 at the age of 86 years. Services were held at Harding Funeral Home with interment at Union Cemetery, Slatington. Pastor Kees officiated.

***Sandra "Sandy" M. Culp** entered eternal life on December 27, 2009 at the age of 49 years. Services were held at Stephens Funeral Home with interment at Cedar Hill Memorial Park. Ernie Siegfried officiated.

Krista J. Harakal entered eternal life on January 17, 2009 at the age of 17. Private services were held at the request of the family. Ernie Siegfried officiated.

Our sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of Martha, Sandy and Krista. May God continue to be your guide and strength.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes will be offered at two worship services on Ash Wednesday, February 25, 2009, either 11:00am or 7:00pm. New this year will be an opportunity for you to receive communion and the imposition of ashes

from 6:00-9:00am the morning of Ash Wednesday.



MID WEEK LENTEN SERVICES

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

Worship at 11:00am and 7:00pm each Wednesday in Lent. The theme this year will be about the Trial of Judas (the punishment phase). More

information on our Lenten theme will be published in the weekly bulletins. Come join your friends at Hope this Lenten Season – a powerful, life-changing journey that calls to prayerful and honest repentance.



RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Hope members who were hospitalized from December 9th through January 28th were: Lester Snyder, Alfred Steiner, Louis Knappenberger, Dale Beers, Sharon Hay, Star Paly, Donald Benninger, Jr., Donald Benninger, Sr., Harold Itterly, Jeanette Moyer, Russell Kromer, Jane Fisher, Rachael Richard and Chad Rehrig. *Please keep these persons in your prayers.*

BLOOD DONORS

Members of Hope who have recently donated blood for the Miller Memorial Blood Center are as follows: Bill Fritzinger and Paul Mishko.

Thank you to all of our faithful donors. Mark your calendars now for our blood drive here at Hope to be held on Saturday, May 16th in loving memory of Doug Gable.



DOING SOMETHING FOR LENT

Some years ago there was the story about a family who was visited by an older aunt during the season of Lent. The aunt was a devoted Christian who liked to read mystery stories, especially murder mysteries. The family made sure there was a supply of such books in her room. Toward the end of the aunt's stay, the family noticed that she had not touched a single book. "What's the matter," asked the nephew, "don't you like our selection of books" "Oh, no, it's not that," she replied, "It's just that I've given up murder for Lent."



Thank You

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear David and Hope's choir, orchestra and congregation, My family and I would like to express our deepest thanks for the amazing performance of the anthem commissioned in memory of our father/grandfather/husband, Gene Bishop. The "premier" of "Shine Like Stars" on January 11th was incredibly

beautiful and we appreciate so much all the time and effort that went into making it so memorable and special for our family. Please use the enclosed donation to further enhance your musical ministry. The joy you bring to all who hear you is immeasurable. Sincerely,

Jennifer Ventura and family,
Gary Bishop and family,
Chris Bishop and family and
Peg Bishop

Dear Hope Church, thank you very much for the cards, prayers, calls and Pastor Ernie's visit. Thanks again.

Jane Fisher and family

Hope Lutheran Church, thank you for remembering me at Christmas. The carolers and fruit tray we really appreciated. Thank you also to the people who sent cards, especially to Ali in the 4th grade Sunday School class for the handmade card. It is nice to be remembered at this time of year. God Bless.

Ruth Frisch

Dear Hope Lutheran Church, I wanted to say thank you for awarding me the scholarship this year! I wanted to also extend my thanks to the sources of the scholarship money, the family of Rev. Shupp and in memory of Olive Jacobs. I appreciate the honor of receiving this money and it will definitely be put to good use, probably towards books! Thank you all once again from the bottom of my heart! Sincerely,

Allison Schell, Sophomore at Dickinson College
US History and Medieval Studies

THANK YOU NOTES CONTINUED...

Dear Hope Lutheran Church; Thank you very much for both scholarship checks. I really appreciate them. They come in handy each semester when it comes time to buy books. It is a nice feeling to know that all of you support my education and believe in my goals. Thank you again and God Bless.

Amanda Bartholomew

Dear Hope Church, Just a short note to thank you for the 2nd installment of my scholarship award. I am beginning my 2nd semester of my junior year at Millersville University. I am dual majoring in Special Education and Elementary Education. The scholarship money certainly comes in handy when purchasing the books for my classes. Again, thank you for this scholarship money. Sincerely,

Lauren Thompson

I have just finished another semester at Wilkes University, (the time is flying by), and have started the second half of my junior year. I completed last semester with the honor of being on the Dean's List, and hope to keep that in this half of the school year. I thank God for allowing me to be part of the community he helped us build at Hope Lutheran Church, and thank the congregation for being part of the community who helps support the Church's college students by giving them a scholarship each year. Thank you again, it is greatly appreciated!

Rachel Tretiak

Dear Hope Lutheran Church, I would like to thank you for the generous scholarship gift. It was put to good use purchasing my sixth semester textbooks-and we all know that was no small endeavor. Each of my books was around \$120. I am still studying at Penn State University's State College campus, working to complete my degree in mechanical engineering. I greatly appreciate the church's support through this time in my life. Thanks again.

Jonathan Bednar



THANK YOU NOTES CONTINUED...

Hope Church, thank you very much again for the scholarship money. It really does make a difference. Thank you!

Nicholas and Kate Steiner

Pastor Kees and Hope Lutheran Church, Thank you very much for baptizing our son Landen Carter Thomas. Also for welcoming him into the church community. He will get to be a part of a wonderful and joyful place. The day was very memorable and thank you for being such a big part of it. Thank you very much.

Mandy Neff and Jayson Thomas

To members of Hope Church, We thank you for the cards from members plus the 6th grade children. Thanks for the carolers who came to our home with beautiful songs and also for the fruit. Bless you. Wishing you all a very happy new year.

Paul and Clara Haydt

Dear Pastor Kees, Please extend our most sincere thanks to the members of Hope Lutheran Church and all participants in this year's Ingathering for their gifts and donations to Sayre Child Center. To say we were overwhelmed by your generosity is an understatement. Please share our gratitude and please know that each donor and every gift has made a difference in the lives of more than 100 children at Sayre Child Center. We couldn't do what we do without your continued support. From our families, staff, Board of Directors and most importantly, our children, thank you for generously supporting our program and enriching so many lives. Sincerely,

Tina Siegfried
Executive Director

Dear Hope Church; thank you for thinking of us during the Christmas season. We really appreciated the carolers and enjoyed the fruit tray that was given to us.

Ted and Lucille Foster



THANK YOU NOTES CONTINUED...

To Hope's Congregation, We extend sincere thanks to everyone for the cards, gifts and kind words at Christmas time as well as your prayers following Deb's recent hospitalization and surgery.

Ernie and Deb Siegfried

Dear Council and Hope Members, Thank you for the generous Christmas gift. It will surely be spent in the near future. It is an honor and privilege serving as your treasurer. I have been very blessed with the support and kindness of all the members of Hope. May we all look forward to a new beginning this year.

Trudy Mertz

Dear Congregation and Council, Thank you for the monetary gift I received from the congregation for Christmas. My family suggested I use it to buy some wireless headphones for myself.

But on second thought, maybe I'll buy some more Gregorian Chant CDs or a Handel oratorio. It is always nice being remembered at this time of year in such a special way. In the words of Cohen, "I thank you, my mother thanks you (and if I buy those headphones) my family thanks you!"

David Ziegler

Dear Congregation of Hope Church, Thank you for the monetary Christmas gift. Sometimes I forget that I'm now staff, and then I get pleasant reminders like your gift, or words of appreciation and support for the bell choirs. It's a year now that I've accepted the position of bell choir director. I've learned a lot during that year, as have all the ringers. The bell choirs have really banded and grown together to make a new kind of music that all of us on the bell choirs hope enhances your worship experience. I appreciate your generosity and your support for all of us on the bell choirs. I wish everyone a happy new year. Sincerely,

Janet Filchner

THANK YOU NOTES CONTINUED...

Dear Hope Church; thank you so much for the monetary Christmas gift. I really appreciate your generosity, and I had fun spending it (on myself!!) Thank you to everyone for your love and support.

Wishing you all a very blessed and happy new year. Love,
Jane Tretiak

Dear Hope Church Council, Thank you for the monetary gift I received at Christmas. I appreciated it very much. I wish you all a very happy new year.

Deb Gardner

The staff of Hope's Congregation - Pastor Kees, Ernie Siegfried, Jane Tretiak, David Ziegler, Trudy Mertz, Janet Filchner, Deb Gardner and Bill Fritzing, thank all of you for your creative, thoughtful and gracious Christmas gifts, your many greetings and expressions of love and concern for us, and your prayers during the Christmas season. Your care for us gave us energy for our work and ministry in those very busy days. Thank you and God bless all of you in the New Year.



STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Stewardship report – In reviewing the income from last year, we as a congregation came up with approximately \$12,000 less than the budget. This concerns both the finance and stewardship committees. Although expenses for last year were under budget, we still ended the year with approximately a \$5,000 deficit. Also, pledges for 2009 (\$177,645) are down considerably from 2008 (\$213,904). We are all concerned with the state of the economy, but we also need to keep our church healthy. Already this year, we have had a couple of snowy Sunday's, and this keeps attendance down along with envelope giving.

Stewardship and Finance Committees

Upcoming Youth Group Events

February 13th – Valentine Dinner (*see below*)

March 1st – Lost and Found Concert

March 13th – 14th – Youth Retreat (Hope Church)

May 10th – Youth Sunday

ANNUAL SHORE TRIP - *There are two possible dates selected and on the youth board. Please put your name and availability for these dates on the sheet ASAP!!! We know it's early, but we must have an approximate number so we can reserve the date in February.*

A reminder to all youth: All these dates and more details of the events are available on the youth page of our church site. hopecherryville.org/youth.php There are also lots of pictures from past events. The site is updated often so be sure to check it!

Look for sign up sheets for upcoming events on the youth board found in the narthex.



VALENTINE'S DINNER

Hope's youth group will be holding a Valentine's Dinner here at church on Friday, February 13th from 5:00-8:00pm in Kuntz Hall. The menu is chicken Marsala or prime rib, baked potato, vegetables, assorted soups, rolls, desserts, coffee, tea, and iced tea. There will also be a children's menu, which is a hot dog, macaroni and cheese and desserts. Bring your sweetheart to this restaurant style meal where the youth group will wait you on. The cost is \$20.00 per couple or \$10.00 per individual. The children's price is \$2.50. You must have a ticket for this event, and the youth group will sell them after both worship services. Deadline to get tickets is Sunday, February 8th.

WEDDING VOW RENEWAL SERVICE

You will have an opportunity to renew your wedding vows during worship on Sunday, February 15, 2009, at both worship services. The rite will be brief during which husband and wives will repeat our vows to each other and receive a blessing. Valentine was a saint of the early church who died a martyr in the third century CE (AD) on February 14.



Vow Renewal

CATECHETICAL CLASS NEWS

LEVEL I

- Mini-Retreat on Prayer and the Lord's Prayer. Sunday, March 1st 9:15am-12:15pm

LEVEL II

- Mentor/Student Bible Trivia handed out in January is due back by Sunday, February 1st.
- Mentor/Student Pizza and Game Night on Saturday, February 7th at 5:00pm in Kuntz Hall.

Mentors and Level II students if you have any conflicts with any of the upcoming mentor events, please call Trish Ninos at 610-261-4480 ASAP.

- Sunday, February 8th Level II “ – Death and Dying Retreat from 1:00-4:00pm.

DAFFODIL SUNDAY



Will be held on **Sunday, March 22, 2009**. The daffodils, symbolic of Hope, have become powerful medicine in their own right. First, they raise the spirits and cancer consciousness of those who purchase them. Secondly, the money raised

increases the chance that cancer and its very many forms will eventually be brought under control. *(taken from a Morning Call article, C/O Call Me Kelly 03/22/00)*. Order forms are printed on the next page.

DAFFODIL SUNDAY - MARCH 22, 2009

ORDER FORM

NAME _____ PHONE _____

An insert will be included in the bulletin and cancer prayer read

DAFFODILS TO BE ORDERED

**Only one name per order form please!*

| | <u>QUANTITY</u> | <u>COST</u> |
|--|-----------------|-------------|
| Bunch = \$10.00 (10 flowers) | | |



Vase of Hope = \$15.00
(10 flowers in a vase)

Bear & Bunch = \$25.00
(Boyd's Bear "Carrie N. Hope" and daffodils)

Potted Daffodils = \$12.00 (new this year)
4"pot with 3 daffodil bulbs

TOTAL..... \$ _____

PAYMENT: PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO L.V. UNIT, AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY (NOT HOPE CHURCH) NO MONIES ARE KEPT BY HOPE CHURCH.

In Honor of Survivor _____

In Memory of _____

*Thank you for supporting the American Cancer Society's programs of education, patient services and cancer research!
March is National Colorectal Cancer awareness month.*

**ORDER DEADLINE:
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2009**

Please place order form and check in an envelope and place in the locked box in the narthex!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The Fifth Grade Class has started their preparation for First Holy Communion, which will be held on March 29th at the 10:30am worship service. Please make every effort to attend Sunday School each week for this very important instruction time. Also, a letter was sent to each fifth grade student to explain meetings with Ernie Siegfried and Pastor Kees. Please don't forget to call the church office at 610-767-7203 to make your "reservation" for a date and time. If you have a child in fifth grade and did not receive a letter, please let the church office know ASAP.



WE NEED YOUR HELP

The church, like every other organization to which we belong, has rules we must follow if we wish to maintain our membership. Those rules are found in the constitutions of both the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and Hope Church. You and I, and all other Lutherans, are required to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion **and** make a contribution of record at least once in each calendar year.

For Hope Church to maintain accurate membership records, you must do the following:

- 1) Receive Holy Communion **and complete a communion card at least once a year**. If you can't remember if you've done it previously in that year, do it again.
- 2) Make a contribution **of record** at least once a year. "Of record" means you must place your contribution in your giving envelope (or at least use your envelope number so we can identify and credit it to you). We can't credit a contribution of loose cash placed in the offering plate.

Parents and guardians are reminded that young persons who have been confirmed are members of the congregation to whom these provisions also apply. Please encourage and assist them in maintaining their membership.

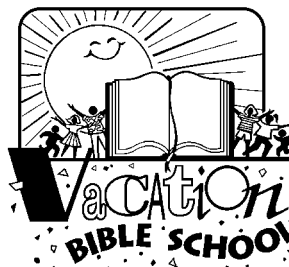
REDNER'S SAV-A-TAPE PROGRAM

Hope Church continues to participate in the Redners' sav-a-tape program. You must use a sav-a-tape card in order for your receipts to qualify. The church receives 1% of all receipts submitted. Sis Livermon organizes and totals all of the register tapes, and takes them to the store. Redners then sends the church a check. Receipts that do not have the sav-a-tape card information, do not qualify and have to be discarded. Please continue to bring in your register tapes, and if you don't have a card, they are available in the church office. Call Jane Tretiak in the church office with any questions. Thank you.

COMMUNION FOR 2009

As you take communion for 2009, please fill out a communion card and give it to an usher. This will help us keep our records up to date.

Remember, you only have to fill a communion card out once every year. Thank you!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2009

Mark your calendars now for Vacation Bible School. It is scheduled this year for the week of July 6, 2009 with the closing program at 9:30am on Sunday, July 12th. Watch for more information in upcoming newsletters or on our website at www.hopecherryville.org

IS THERE CHURCH??

If the weather is extremely bad on any given Sunday (or Wednesday) this winter and you're wondering if Sunday School or worship services are cancelled, please check the church website (www.hopecherryville.org), call the church office (610-767-7203), listen to radio station WAEB (AM790), or watch the WLEV television station.



Girl Scout Cookie Time

COOKIES FROM HOME

The Girl Scout troops that meet here at Hope are participating in "Cookies from Home". They will be taking donations of any amount, preferably \$3.50 (the cost of a box of cookies) or \$7.00, etc. to purchase boxes of Girl Scout cookies to send to the military troops stationed throughout the world. The Girl Scout council is working with USO to ship them and distribute them to our soldiers. Please help with this very worthwhile cause. You may also purchase cookies for yourself. Please contact Natalie Savage @ 610-767-8569 for more information.

CUB SCOUT BREAKFAST

Cub Pack #242 of Hope Church will be holding a breakfast at Hope on Sunday, March 8th. The breakfast will be in Kuntz Hall. Adult=\$6.00; Children (3-12yrs)=\$3.00; under age 3=free. Watch weekly bulletins for more information. Proceeds benefit the Cub Scouts.



CUB PACK #242

Cub Pack meetings are held at Hope Church the third Tuesday each month in Kuntz Hall beginning at 7:00pm. Den meetings are held the first and third Thursdays each month. If you are interested in getting more information about our Cub Pack, please contact Josh Larkin at 760-0367.



CHERRYVILLE SENIOR CENTER

Did you make any New Year's resolutions? Would you like to add one to your list? Are you tired of sitting at home? If you are 60 or older, you are invited to come to the Cherryville Senior Center to meet new friends and join in activities such as Bingo, quilting, exercise, crafts, parties, bus trips, cards, puzzles or perhaps you might like to volunteer for a sing-a-long, bingo caller, games, maybe even help in the kitchen. You need not be a member of Hope Lutheran Church. The center is open to all. A lunch and transportation is offered for a donation. Monday through Friday, the center operates under auspices of Northampton County Area Agency on Aging. Make that first step and call 610-767-2977 for more information.

SPRING BASKET SOCIAL

Mark your calendars now for Friday, April 11, 2008. This is the date set aside for Hope's Spring Basket Social. Please note: this fundraiser benefits The Northampton Area Food Bank and Hope's Good Samaritan Fund.

MARDI GRAS – AKA ALL MALE COOK OFF

Men/boys of Hope Church, get your recipes ready! Our all male cook off will be held on Sunday, February 15th in the fellowship hall. Categories include breakfast, casserole, entrée, chili, soup, vegetable/salad or dessert. All are welcome to attend and to sample all of the delicious dishes and vote for your favorite.

BEAR CREEK DAY CAMP

Mark your calendars – Bear Creek Day Camp will be held at Hope Church from July 27 – July 31 from 9:00am –3:00pm. More information in next month's newsletter.



CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES SUMMARY –

January 12, 2009

- Pastor Kees opened the meeting and David Roth led devotions.
- **Election of Officers for 2009:**
 - *President – Dennis Biechy
 - *Vice President – Tim Moore
 - *Secretary – Stacey Ziegler
 - *Treasurer - Trudy Mertz
 - *Finance Secretary - Deb Gardner
- Secretary and Treasurer reports were reviewed and approved.
- **Interim Pastor's Report:**
 - *Attended 15 worship services including advent and other
 - *Met with Mission District, staff, and committees
 - *Participated with Caroling, Ingathering, Sr. Banquet and confirmation retreat.
 - *Preparing for Paulette Obrecht's ordination service.
 - *Welcomed new members.
 - *Has weddings and baptisms requests.
 - *Announced Mary Gade's resignation at Zeigels to perform duties as Dean of our Mission District.
- **Pastoral Assistant's Report:**
 - *Attended 12 worship services
 - *Met with staff and family funeral planning
 - *Participated with Nursery School Christmas stories, Christmas Ingathering, and Nativity Display
 - *Made several hospital and home visits.
 - *Officiated one funeral.
- **Youth:**
 - *December 21 had a successful Christmas party. Youth enjoyed building and designing gingerbread houses as well as creating a dance to Christmas songs.
 - *Snow tubing January 22.
- **Social Ministry:**
 - *Had a successful Ingathering.
 - *Went to Good Shepherd.

Continued on the next page...

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES SUMMARY CONTINUED...

January 12, 2009

- **Worship and Music:**
 - *Committee decided to discontinue the sharing of the peace.
 - *Hope orchestra would like to perform another concert sometime in June possibly with a dinner.
 - *Marriage Vows Renewal Service on February 15, 2009.
- **Property:**
 - *Reviewed sign estimates
 - *Matching new paint for nave ceiling
 - *Installed surge protectors
 - *Replaced AC compressor
 - *Cleaned and painted parsonage
- **Christian Ed Committee:**
 - *New Member Lori Kerper, new chair.
- **Stewardship:**
 - *17% less pledges and commitment cards than last year.
- **Personnel Committee**
 - *Bill is doing a good job, church is very clean.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, February 9, 2009 at 7:00pm.

