



HOPE HOME NEWS

Hope Lutheran Church, Cherryville, PA
Vol. XXXVI No. 10 December, '10-January, '11

DECEMBER & JANUARY WORSHIP—WELCOME TO HOPE!

DECEMBER, 2010

Sun. Dec. 5th – Advent 2

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

Sun. Dec. 12th – Advent 3

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

Sun. Dec. 19th – Advent 4

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

Fri., Dec. 24th – Christmas Eve

- 4:00 p.m. Family Service
 - 6:00 p.m. Family Service
 - 8:30 p.m. Festival Service
 - 11:30 p.m. Festival Service
- More information inside*

Sun. Dec. 26th – Christmas 1

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

JANUARY, 2011

Sun. Jan. 2nd – Christmas 2

Installation of Council

- 8 a.m. Holy Communion
 - 10:30 a.m. Service of the Word
- SCS Christmas Program
(snow date)

Sun. Jan. 9th –

The Baptism of Our Lord

- 8 a.m. Service of the Word
 - 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion
- New Member Classes*
(Jan. 9, 16, 23 & 30)

Sun. Jan 16th – Epiphany 2

- 8 a.m. Holy Communion
 - 10:30 a.m. Service of the Word
- Installation of Confirmation Mentors*

Sun. Jan. 23rd – Epiphany 3

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

Sun. Jan. 30th – Epiphany 4

- 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Holy Comm.
- Reception of New Members*

▫ ▫ **SPECIAL ADVENT/CHRISTMAS WORSHIP** ▫ ▫

SATURDAY ADVENT WORSHIP – Each Sat. evening in Advent - the beautiful Holden Evening Prayer (5:00-5:30 p.m - Saturdays are November 27, December 4, 11 & 18)

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 23rd. A light luncheon will follow. Please call the church office if you need a ride.

more details on Christmas events inside ➤

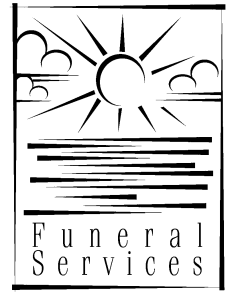
PASTORAL ACTS

FUNERALS

Percy D. Knappenberger, entered eternal life on October 21, 2010 at the age of 66 years. Services were held at Schisler Funeral Home with interment at Woodlawn Memorial. Pastor Jami officiated.

Dennis A. Binder, entered eternal life on October 27, 2010 at the age of 61 years. Services were held at Harding Funeral Home with interment at Indianland Cemetery. Pastor Jami officiated and Pastor Tony Pagotto assisted.

Our sympathy to the family and friends of Percy and Dennis. May God continue to be your guide and strength.



BELL CHOIR SUBSTITUTES



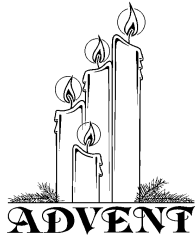
The bell choirs would like to compile a list of substitute ringers for when members of the bell choirs are unable to be at a rehearsal. There is no long-term commitment in being a substitute, but a substitute must be able to read music. If you think this is something you would like to do, please contact Janet Filchner for more information. 610-262-5215 or bells@hopecherryville.org

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS and ALTAR GUILD

We need a few volunteers for both of these schedules, but we especially need help on Christmas Eve. This year we will be having 4 worship services on Christmas Eve; 4:00pm, 6:00pm, 8:30pm and 11:30pm. We need 3 communion assistants (only 6:00pm still needed, thank you to the volunteers who volunteered for the other services) and also 2 to 3 people to help our altar guild for each service. The volunteers for the altar guild will help fill the candles with liquid wax and straighten up the pews for the following service. Please see the sign up sheets posted on the wall in the back of the church. Thank you.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE

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 23rd**. A light luncheon will follow. Please call the church office if you need a ride.



SATURDAY EVENING ADVENT WORSHIP

We will prepare for the Christmas season with an additional opportunity for weekly worship – Saturday evenings at 5:00pm on November 27, December 4, 11 & 18. Our worship will be approximately 30 minutes in length and will use the beautiful contemporary setting of Holden Evening Prayer. Please come join us for this special worship on these four Saturdays.

NEW YEAR'S EVE WATCH NIGHT SERVICE

A brief service will be held on New Year's Eve at Hope Church on Friday, December 31st at 6:00pm.

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Hope members who were hospitalized from October 26th through November 25th were: *George Binder, Donald Neustadter, *Dennis Binder, Norman Flick, Jack Wolfe, Kay O'Donnell, Sandy Hunsicker and John Holland. Please keep these persons in your prayers. *deceased*



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).

CHRISTMAS DECORATING – SOUP SUPPER – ADVENT WORSHIP

All can help decorate the church at **2:30 pm** on Saturday, **December 18th** 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 18th at 6:00 pm**. We go visit as many homebound members as possible. We will leave 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

4:00 pm and 6:00 pm - A family/young children service of Candlelight, Carols and Communion.

This service will feature 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 and Hope's orchestra.



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

The nursery will be open for all of the worship services on Christmas Eve; however the nursery will **not** be staffed. If you feel your child needs a little break from any of the services, please feel free to use the nursery as long as needed. Thank you!

WREATHS FOR SALE TO DECORATE HOPE CHURCH



On Saturday, December 18th, 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.

AFTER CHRISTMAS CLEAN-UP

Please come out on Monday, December 27th at 8:00am to help clean up the church and also put some of the Christmas decorations away. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

The Senior Choir is selling poinsettias for Christmas Eve. The DEADLINE to order your poinsettias is Sunday, December 12th. Please see order form on the next page.



REMINDER TO POINSETTIA SPONSORS

It is appreciated if all plants could remain in the sanctuary for all four 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 will be available in the narthex shortly. **Please return completed candles no later than Sunday, December 19th. Thank you!**



Greetings from the Pastor,

Emmanuel – God with us. That’s what it is all about – Christmas I mean. Emmanuel – God with us. In the midst of the shopping, the baking, the wrapping, the caroling, the decorating the gift-giving do you find him? In the wonder of the festivity, the worship, the candlelight, the community do you find him? In the midst of the silence, the joy, the holiness, the wonder do you find him? Because Emmanuel – God with us - is what Christmas is all about.

It is not surprising if you answered no to the questions above. After all, two thousand years ago people missed him. The throngs of people who came to Bethlehem on the night of his birth to be counted in the census missed him. As he grew up, the people from his hometown in Nazareth missed him. Many who heard him preach, saw him heal, witnessed his miracles missed him. The scribes and Pharisees who confronted him during his ministry missed him. And yet he was never disguised!

Only those who were open to his presence – only those who trusted his message – only those who dared to believe God was at work among humanity – only those people experienced Emmanuel – God with us.

Emmanuel – God with us – continues to come. Entering the world...in the bright eyes of a child witnessing for the first time the sacredness of Christmas Eve worship...in the grateful heart of the one who has experienced forgiveness...in the open arms of the ones who welcome the rejected...in the wandering feet of the ones who spread the gospel...in the listening ears of the ones who hear acceptance...in the faith-filled voices of the ones who give thanks for his coming.

This year...may you find him – Emmanuel – God with us. May you be awakened to his presence within you. May you be filled with wonder and awe for the way he works in your life. May you experience joy and hope and gratitude as he touches your soul. May you hear his voice as he whispers your name and calls you to help him enter the world. Because he comes - Emmanuel – God with us.

Christmas Blessings, Pastor Jami

MERRY
CHRISTMAS



DID YOU RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION THIS YEAR?

Did you fill out a communion card (earlier this year) or complete the hospitality pad (later this year)? Please complete the Hope Hospitality pad next time you receive communion (if you didn't or you're not sure). Our constitution requires active members to receive communion regularly.

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 2011 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 Jami.



FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS FOR 2011

Consecration Sunday is a spiritual-growth-oriented process, which is designed to enrich our biblical

understanding of Christian stewardship. The experience concentrates on the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development.

If you were unable to attend Consecration Sunday, you will receive or may have already received an Estimate of Giving Card. Could you help us to complete our Christian Stewardship campaign by returning it within one week once you have received it? If there are additional members of your family who will be making a commitment, please write their name, envelope number and commitment on the back of this Estimate of Giving card. Thanks for your help in bringing this fine spiritual experience to a good conclusion.

FLOWER CHART

Our new flower chart for 2011 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 2011 is posted on the narthex bulletin board. Three sponsors needed per week at a cost of \$6.00 per sponsor. Thank you to Nancy Creyer for making our bulletin chart.

DECEMBER 26, 2010 WORSHIP

Due to the fact that our Sunday School Christmas program (see below) is being held on a Sunday, which we would normally, have communion during the 10:30am service; we will have communion at 8:00am that morning.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Our annual Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 26th during the 10:30am church service. The snow date is Sunday, January 2nd during the 10:30am 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.



2010 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 2011.

NAME(S) _____

ENVELOPE NUMBER _____

CATECHETICAL CLASSES AND MENTOR UPDATE

LEVEL I

COMING UP-

✧ Saturday, January 22nd – Mentor Breakfast

LEVEL II

COMING UP –

✧ Sunday, December 12th – Visit to St. Nicholas Catholic Church

✧ Friday, January 21st - Trivia Paper Event with Mentors

A great Outreach event during December is Decorating/Caroling on Saturday, December 18th. Also, there are extra worship services during December- Saturdays @ 5 pm and Christmas Eve.



MENTORS

Thanks for
being a
Mentor



The mentoring program is designed to pair an adult member of our congregation with a student for various meetings/activities during the school year. The purpose of the mentoring program is to broaden the learning opportunities for our students. It is one way of helping young people

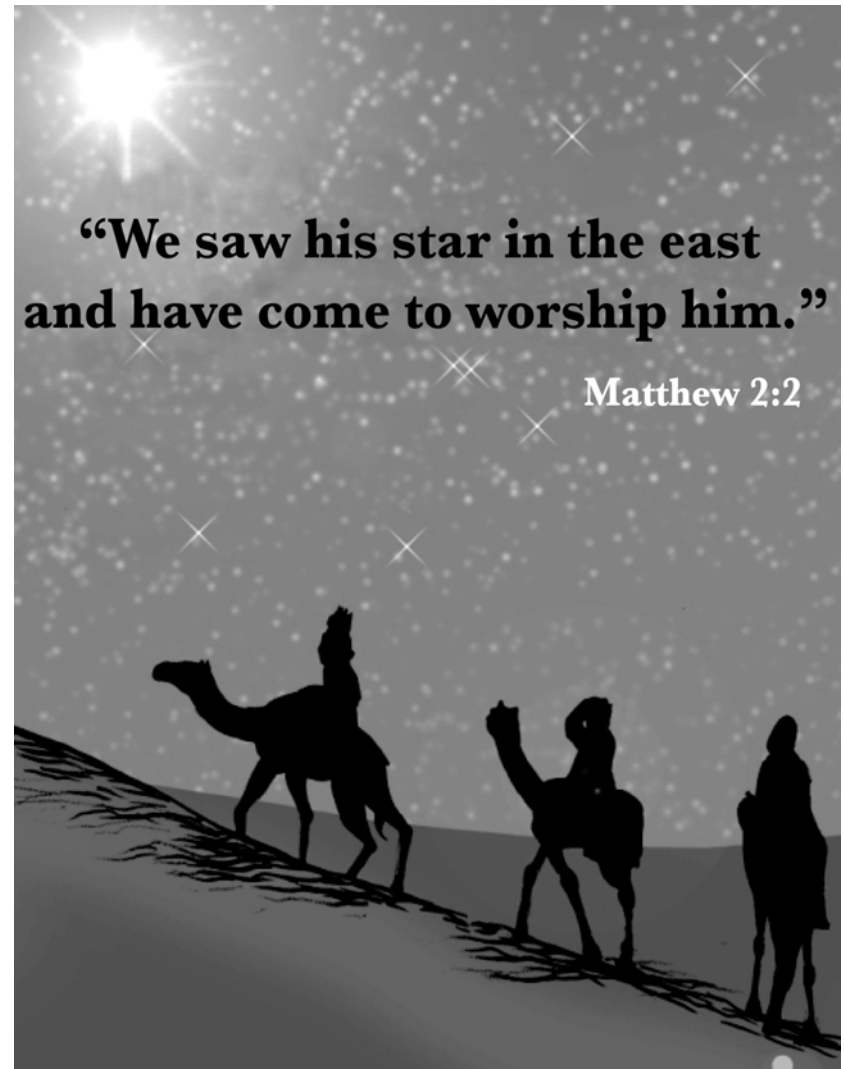
to become committed followers of Christ. Effective learning often takes place through relationships. We think our young people can benefit from relating to another adult member of our faith community. It is not designed to teach a body of knowledge or information. While young people need to know the doctrines of faith, they also need someone who can help them understand what it means for baptized people of God to love one another, to encourage one another, to pray for one another and to build up one another in faith. Our mentoring program starts halfway through the Level I year, so we will be starting to look for Level I mentors very shortly.

If you are interested in volunteering to mentor one of our students, please call the church office.

THANK YOU NOTE

Pastor Jami Possinger and Congregation of Hope Lutheran, Thank you for my Bible. I have been using it every week in Sunday School. Thank you. Danielle Weaver

THE EPIPHANY STORY – Epiphany is celebrated annually in Christian churches on January 6. The word “epiphany” comes from a Greek word meaning “manifestation” or “showing forth.” Its focus is on the legendary arrival of the Magi (three wise men) after the birth of Christ. They followed the light of a star to find the Light of the World.



2010 OFFERINGS – Please “catch up” with your 2010 commitment or “intended” giving by the end of December. If you are able to give an extra gift before the end of the year, it will help pull us out of the RED. Let’s keep Hope’s ministries STRONG!! THANK YOU!



2010 OFFERINGS must be received or postmarked on or before December 31, 2010 to receive credit for 2010. Any offerings received after January 1, 2011 MUST be credited as 2011 contributions.

**2010 ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE BY
JANUARY 15, 2011**

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 easier way to submit your report is by email. Please send it to Jane in the church office at office@hopecherryville.org)



**BEAR CREEK WINTER CAMP
DECEMBER 27-29, 2010**

(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 2010. More information and registration forms available at www.bearcreekcamp.org

WELCA
The new WELCA news is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please take one! Also; all women are invited to attend our next meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, December 14th at 9:00am (this is the second Tuesday; our normal meetings are held on the third Tuesday each month).

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!



CONGRATULATIONS

To David Galloway who has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. David’s Eagle Scout project was installing a 130ft. concrete walkway from the parking lot to the church pavilion. Thank you to David, the walkway looks beautiful!

NEW MEMBERS CLASSES

If you know of someone who is interested in becoming a member of Hope Church, please invite him or her to our new members classes, which will begin in October. Classes will be held from 9:15-10:15am on the following Sundays; January 9, 16 & 23. New members will be received on Sunday, October 30th.



Hope Lutheran Church
Summary of Council Minutes
November 8, 2010

TREASURER'S

REPORT: Reviewed and a motion to approve by Ed Tretiak and motion seconded by Jean Liebenguth. All in favor.
A motion to accept 2011 budget made by Arnie Kuntz.
Motion seconded by Kris Doncsecz.

CORRESPONDENCE/TRANSFERS:

OUT:

IN: Michelle Costanzo, children Maya and Brandon
Barbara Duroso
Melissa Fischl, child Chloe
Kandyce Fisher
Jeffry and Nicole Minarovic, child Colin
Rev. Jerry and Betty Mraz
James and MaryBeth Murphy
Kevin and Nicole O'Donnell, Colin, Rylee and Brady
Ann Reinhard, Thomas and Shannon
Lisa Ruth, child Katelyn
Michael and Lisa Saylor, Amber and Olivia
Michael Stevens
Bob and Sue Tarantino, Alex
Gregory and Jennifer Thomas, Sophia and Olivia
Michelle Vadelund, Jenele and Lucas
Jack and Karen Wolfe

REINSTATEMENT:

Ryan Ritter – communed and contributed

PASTOR'S

REPORT: Summary of October 2010
Worship – 10 services (8 preached), Baptisms 1,
Funerals 2, Weddings 2,
Reception of New Members 16, Counseling 6, Pre-
Baptismal Meetings 1, Pre-Marital Counseling 2,
Hospital Visits 16, Home/Shut-in Visits 5, New member
classes 4, Open Question and Answer Meetings 5,
Individual Meetings with Council Members 6
Baptisms – 1 *continued on the next page...*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

YOUTH: Pizza on Wednesdays (POW) – Nov. 10, 2010 – 5:30pm

SOCIAL MINISTRY: Fall Feast, November 13, 2010

WORSHIP &

MUSIC: Caroling, December 18, 2010
Christmas Eve services; 4pm Service will be same as
6pm – a family oriented service of Lessons and carols:
the format of the 8:30 and 11:30 services will remain the
same.
Nursery will be open on Christmas Eve, but not staffed.

STEWARDSHIP: In preparation for Consecration Sunday, the sermon
will be done by Rev. Dr. Herb Gifford on November
14, 2010 and November 21, 2010.
Leadership dinner November 15, 2010 with Rev. Dr.
Herb Gifford

EVANGELISM: The 11th annual Nativity Display will be on
November 27, 2010 from 10:00am-8:00pm and
November 28, 2010 from 10:00am-5:00pm.
Set up will be on November 26, 2010 at 9:00am.

PERSONNEL/MUTUAL

MINISTRY: A list of names has been drawn up for contact.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Memorial Garden Task Force – Next meeting Nov. 16th
at 7:30pm.
Constitution Task Force – met in July and Pastor Jami is
preparing the updates for council to review.

NEW BUSINESS: Building Usage:
Dec. 4th – Birthday Party/Michael Neff / Kuntz Hall
Dec. 18th – Christmas Party/Binder Party/Kuntz Hall
Basket Party Request – January or February 2011 –
benefit Muscular Dystrophy.

Next meeting December 13, 2010 at 7:00pm