

## Table of Contents

Hope Leadership.....	3
Contact Information.....	4
Greetings from the Pastor.....	5, 6
Stewardship Corner.....	7, 8, 9
Sunday Worship Audio CD's and Video DVD's .....	9, 10, 11, 12, 13
Pastoral Acts.....	13
May Prayer List.....	14
When You're Hospitalized/Recent Blood Donors/Memorial Blood Drive .....	15
Christian Education/Catechetical Update .....	16, 17
2012 Graduates/Thank You Notes/Spring Basket Social .....	18, 19, 20, 21, 24
May 2012 Calendar .....	22, 23
Knoebels/Evangelism/Bible Study/Prayer Tent/Gracedale/WELCA .....	25, 26
Godspell Jr./American Cancer Society/Hope Fest/Bear Creek Camp.....	27, 28
Tae Kwon Do/Historical Society News/Plant Auction .....	29, 30
Retirement Workshop/VBS .....	30, 31
Reading Through the Bible/May Worship Schedule .....	32
Financial Report .....	33
April 2012 Council Highlights/Tentative Newsletter Schedule.....	34, 35
Geraniums for Pentecost/Hope Lutheran Scholarship Fund .....	36, 37
SYNOD NEWS.....	38, 39
Kids Section .....	40
A Look Ahead.....	41
Advertisements/Fliers.....	42, 43

### HOPE LEADERSHIP

#### PASTOR

The Rev. Jami Possinger  
 pastor@hopecherryville.org  
 610-767-7203 ext.#12  
 610-799-2449 (h)



#### VISITATION PASTOR

The Rev. Jerry Mraz  
 610-440-3435 (h)  
 610-442-8156 (c)

#### PASTOR EMERITUS

The Rev. Clark W. Kuntz II

*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."*

#### CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Wayne Weidner, President	Linda Mery, Vice President
Al Rock, Secretary	Dennis Biechy
Kris Doncsecz	Tim Lockard
Tom Patterson	John Schuon
Bob Small	Christal Wrenn
John (Johnny) P. Zmyewski	John S. Zmyewski

#### DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Mr. David R. Ziegler  
 organist@hopecherryville.org  
 610-767-7203 ext.#11

#### SECRETARY

Mrs. Jane Tretiak  
 office@hopecherryville.org  
 610-767-7203 ext.#10

#### BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR

Mrs. Janet Filchner  
 610-767-7203 ext.#40

#### SEXTON

Mrs. Bonnie Zmyewski

#### COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

Mr. Steven Shermetta  
 communications@hopecherryville.org

#### FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Mrs. Deb Gardner

#### TREASURER

Mrs. Trudy Mertz

## CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding New Membership, Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings, Change of Address, Van Requests, Worship Memorial Sponsors, Hospital Admissions, Room Reservations for Meetings or Social Events...**Call the Church Office at 610-767-7203**

REGARDING	CALL	PHONE NO.
Basket Committee	Linda Sidor	610-767-8372
Boy Scouts	John Demczynsyn	610-767-7749
Church Website	Tom Perry	610-261-0743
Confirmation	Lynn LaBarre Pastor Jami	610-767-0880 610-767-7203
Cub Scouts	Lori Rehrig	610-261-4794
Evangelism	Sharyn Kratzer	610-261-1277
Finance	Bob Small	610-428-3231
Girl Scouts	Karen Zimmerman	610-760-1887
Hope Fest	Wayne Weidner	610-767-1512
Memorial Garden	Barry Ritter	610-428-2320
Mentor Leaders	Trish Ninos	610-261-4480
Mutual Ministry	Charlie Kutzler	610-262-4588
Nursery School	Deb Gable	610-767-7523
Prayer Shawl Min.	JoAnne Creyer	610-262-3204
Property	Ralph Fisher	610-392-4985
SCS/Christian Ed	Lynn LaBarre	610-767-0880
Social Ministry	Marge Zimmerman	610-217-8324
Stewardship	Wayne Weidner	610-767-1512
Vacation Bible School	Kathy Ziegler	610-262-9197
WELCA	Judy Dieter	610-767-9170
Worship Arts	Pastor Jami	610-767-7203
Worship & Music	Janet Filchner	610-262-5215
Youth Group	Steph/Stacey Ziegler	610-262-9197
Senior Center	Edith Knauss	610-767-2977
Tae Kwan Do	Rich Mullen	610-760-0958
Yard Sale	Ralph Fisher	610-392-4985

## Greetings from the Pastor...

The 2011 Annual Report is completed and is available to our membership. Copies of it are located on the table in the hallway by the large bulletin board. Which brings me to the point of this article...a few weeks ago one of our members asked me a question about that report – a question I was happy to answer. Here’s what she asked: “How is it that we took in so many new members last year and yet our total membership declined in 2011?” Great question!

And here’s the answer. Constitutionally our leadership is required annually to review the membership status of every member of the congregation to determine which members will continue as active members on the rolls and which members will be classified as inactive members. According to the constitution an active/voting member is someone who, during the current or preceding calendar year, has communed and has made a contribution of record to our congregation.

One of the jobs of the pastor is to make sure the congregation keeps accurate records of membership. Typically, on an annual basis, the pastor culls through the list of persons who have not met the constitutional requirements listed above and sends a letter to inform the person about his or her status. If a person has not communed and contributed for more than two years – and has no extraordinary circumstances (homebound members, for example) - that person is considered an inactive member of the congregation and moved to inactive status.

During the interim period after Pastor Kuntz left and I assumed the pastorate at Hope Lutheran, very few members were moved to inactive status. This means that since 2008 a number of people had not met the constitutional requirements of communing and contributing annually. At the end of 2011 we reviewed the list of

those persons and sent letters *only* to those who did not commune and contribute in 2008 and 2009. A letter was sent to those individuals that included this wording: "Our review of the congregation's records indicate that for the past two years you have not fulfilled the constitution's requirement to commune at least annually and to make a contribution of record – we do not have a record of communion and a contribution of record for you since 2008. This means that we will be moving your membership to our inactive rolls. If this record is in error, please help us to correct it by calling the church office or by emailing us at [office@hopecherryville.org](mailto:office@hopecherryville.org)."

The number of people moved to inactive status because they had not communed and contributed since 2008 totaled 85 people. Add to that the people who transferred out of the congregation, and those who were deceased and the members moved to inactive status totaled 134. So although we received 78 people that number was offset by those who became inactive for one reason or another.

This same process will happen at the end of this year as we "catch up" with amending our membership rolls to accurately reflect our real numbers. This is one of the reasons it is very important to check the "Communed today" block of the Hope Hospitality Pads and make sure you either use your offering envelope or record your envelope number on the check or pew envelope when you make a contribution. So thank you for asking the question because it gave me the opportunity to explain this process more thoroughly to our members!

Blessings,

Pastor Jami

## **STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

### ***Could've, should've, and would've ... but didn't***

Nikole Jackson

It is a depressing day when your day doesn't actually begin until somebody, anybody, takes the initiative to speak to you—or, at the least, notice your presence. Imagine what it would be like to be completely invisible: unseen, ignored and entirely disregarded. Personally, I don't know what this feeling is like—I have only observed it.

I have seen people turn their noses down at the people that need us the most: the helpless and the sick—many of whom are categorized as "the homeless." Are they homeless because of the decisions and mistakes they have made? Maybe. But who are we to add to their punishment? And what if they are homeless because they are sick? Or what if they were that child who was born into a bad family, never having a chance and never knowing how to rise above?

While they are in front of the grocery store, on the side of the freeway, on the bus or even in a fast food restaurant trying to stay warm, I have never stopped to ask these questions. I never thought about all the reasons why they are in the situation they are in—until recently.

Could've, should've, and would've ... but I didn't. It was a rainy day (of course) and I was sitting in the car watching a blind old man trying to cross the street. He couldn't feel the edge of the sidewalk with his white cane, and he had no idea that the walk sign was on.

He stood there; totally clueless that he could cross. I said to myself, "Somebody should help him," so why wasn't I that somebody? I easily could have helped him, and I would've ... but I just didn't. Could've, should've, and would've ... but I didn't.

On another day, I was at KFC with my grandma for at least an hour and a half just talking ... and eating. The whole time I was there, there was another old man with the worst cough. I felt really bad for him as I watched him cough and cough, and order free water again and again in order to stay inside and warm for just a little longer. I said to myself, "I should offer to buy him a hamburger or something." So why didn't I? I had the money, I had the idea, so I could have helped him, and I would have ... but I just didn't.

As we were leaving I went back up to get a drink holder. I saw the old man getting up so I thought he was just ordering another water cup; I was wrong. He came up to me, shook my hand and then wished me a happy new year. After I wished him the same, he smiled the kindest smile and went out into the cold. In a novel by Deb Caletti, she wrote, "I thought I might cry, the way you do when someone gives you some kindness when you most need it but when it seems the most surprising thing." That is how I felt, but I didn't really need the kindness. He did.

Both of those men are real people, with real lives and real stories that I could have been a part of. Every time I am at that intersection I think of the blind old man and every time I am at KFC I think of that sick old man. I completely disregarded their helplessness, even though their neediness was so obvious. What are the chances I will ever see them again or get a second chance at helping them?

Every day, we walk past tons of people and that could be our one and only chance to let them know that we see them—that they aren't invisible. It could be the only opportunity we have to get to hear their stories.

Caletti describes, "Cars all jammed up along the road and a light turns red and someone honks. In every one of those cars there is a story or a hundred stories. For every light on in all of those huge city buildings there is a story." We could, we should and we would ...

but we just don't. We don't stop to talk to these people, to ask them about their day—even a simple smile can mean the most. We all make mistakes, so who am I—no, who are we—to discriminate against these less fortunate people when we have no clue what their stories are. Martin Luther King Jr. wanted equality: race, ethnicity, religion and age. So rich or poor, our story is no better than anyone else's.

My personal experiences have opened my eyes to an issue that has been concealed. Dr. Robert Anthony once said, "Waiting is a trap. There will always be reasons to wait. The truth is, there are only two things in life, reasons and results, and reasons simply don't count."

I am not waiting any longer. I had no reason not to help those old men and I could've, should've and would've ... but just didn't. They helped me. They helped me realize that saying "could've, should've, would've" is only stating our regrets. I will not allow myself to regret such situations again. So now I am saying, "I can, I must and I will go as far as I need to for them to know that they are seen."

#### **SUNDAY WORSHIP AUDIO CD'S AND VIDEO DVD'S**

***"I was sick and you took care of me ..."***

Jerry Mraz, Visitation Pastor

In the course of visiting the shut-in members of our congregation one of the things that I often hear is "Oh, how I miss going to Church." Coupled with that often is the statement "I haven't even heard our Pastor preach."

Those who are home bound or confined to Nursing Home care are often the very ones for whom the Church was an important part of their life. Attendance at worship on Sunday was a high-point of their week. Now, due to physical limitations imposed on them by age, illness or weakness of body, they are no longer able to be part of the worshiping community. To make them part of our Worship we have

our Eucharistic Visitors program in our congregation. The faithful and dedicated members of this team are the following: Kim Belletti, Larry and Kathleen Creyer, LeAnn Chandler, Linda Derr, Kris Doncsecz, Sharyn Kratzer, Betty Krupa, Jean Leibenguth, Helene Mery, Georgia Mohrey, Cathy Moore, Kay O'Donnell, Bruce Schnabel, Vicki Steiner, Loretta Weil, Margaret Zimmerman, and John S. Zmyewski. These persons give of their time to bring the Eucharist to our Shut-ins. Through this act they make it possible for the shut-ins to receive spiritual strengthening of the Eucharist and thus be part of our church at worship. For their ministry, all the rest of us, owe them our thanks. In our place, they fulfill the congregation's responsibility to do as the Lord expects of all of us do, as he says in Matthew 25:36: "... I was sick and you took care of me, ..."

We did try to make it possible for our home-bound to hear the worship through recorded audio tapes. For that work we extend our thanks to Barbara Tobisch who diligently recorded them on Sunday and then made a few copies for the home-bound.

Recently we have decided to expand this ministry even further. We are now making it possible for our Shut-ins and home bound to be part of worship by being able to not only listen to the Sunday Worship but also to be able to see the beauty of festive moments in our Church. We are now recording our Sunday Worship on Compact Audio Discs and video recording services like our recent Holy Week and Easter worship. Larry Creyer, Richard Saffron and Timothy Lockard, are those who do the work of this recording.

The majority of our homes now have the capability to listen to the audio and view the video recordings. And if they do not, then we can even provide the means by which the home-bound can at least listen to the audio recordings. This is now possible through a generous donation of playback equipment provided by of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes of Liberty High School in Bethlehem.

This donation was made possible through Cathy Moore. For this we extend our thanks to them and to Cathy. This is one of the ways that we make it possible for us to help the home-bound be a part of our Sunday Worship.

But each one of us can now benefit from this ministry to the home-bound. As our members have learned of this ministry, I have had a number of them ask if it is possible for them to also obtain these recordings. The answer I was happy to give them is, "Yes, we can give you a copy of the audio or video recording." We have a donated high speed CD copier with which we can make as many copies as we need. All we need to know is which ones a person desires. To make it possible for any of our members to order copies, our Web Master, Tom Perry has set up an Email Order link. If you would like to order any all you have to do is send a request to [audiorecordings@hopecherryville.org](mailto:audiorecordings@hopecherryville.org) All you have to do is, tell us the day of the service you want and provide your name and telephone number. To let you know which services and in what format we have recorded them, we provide the following listing.

#### **Audio CD's**

Nov 6, 2011: Liturgical Dance Service

Dec 4, 2011: Worship Service

Dec 11, 2011: Worship Service

Dec 18, 2011: Sunday School Christmas

Dec 24, 2011: Christmas Eve

Dec 25, 2011: Christmas Day

#### ***Morning Worship Services:***

Jan 1, 2012; Jan 8, 2012; Jan 15, 2012; Jan 22, 2012; Jan 29, 2012;

Feb 5, 2012; Feb 12, 2012 Feb 19, 2012

#### ***Lenten Midweek:***

Feb 22, 2012; Feb 29, 2012; Mar 7, 2012 (AM&PM); Mar 14, 2012;

Mar 21, 2012; Mar 28, 2012

#### ***Lenten Sunday Services***

Feb 26, 2012; Mar 4, 2012; Mar 11, 2012; Mar 18, 2012; Mar 25, 2012

Apr 1, 2012: Palm Sunday  
Apr 5, 2012: Maundy Thursday  
Apr 6, 2012: Good Friday  
Apr 8, 2012: Easter Sunday  
Apr 14, 2012: Worship Service with Baptism  
Apr 22, 2012: Worship Service

### **Video DVD's**

Nov 6, 2011: Liturgical Dance  
Nov 18, 2011: Sunday School Christmas Program  
Feb 26, 2012: Youth Noah Rainbow  
Mar 25, 2012: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade First Communion Service

### **Lenten Services**

Apr 1, 2012: Palm Sunday  
May 5, 2012: Maundy Thursday  
Apr 6, 2012: Good Friday  
Apr 8, 2012: Easter Sunday

### **Special**

Mar 31, 2012: Herald Biblical Theater Company "His Last Days"

Now, if you yourself cannot attend a worship Service for a "valid reason" you can listen to the service by going to the following Web page on our Web site: <http://audiorecordings.hopecherryville.org/>  
There you will find complete instructions for ordering and for listening.

But (and there is a BUT) to provide this ministry, there is a cost the congregation. For our home-bound this ministry is provided free of charge, BUT while it is free (we do not have a charge), for the rest of our members as always, a voluntary donation is always welcome to help defray the cost of the ministry. So, if you avail yourself of any of these benefits, we ask that you consider some donation of any amount to: Eucharistic Ministry.

As the Visitation Pastor, I extend my personal thanks to all of the above mentioned persons who help make the Visitation Ministry a meaningful and vibrant ministry of Hope Lutheran.

We are blessed to have Pastor Jami inspire us and care for us as we all strive together to proclaim the Gospel of God's love not only through words but through all we do. Let us thank her by continuing to perform this ministry for our Lord's Glory.

### **PASTORAL ACTS**

*Pastor Jami officiated at the following pastoral acts*

### **HOLY BAPTISM**

**Maggie Elizabeth Borger** was baptized on Sunday, April 15, 2012 during the 10:30am worship service. Maggie is the daughter of Braden and Jessica (Demko) Borger and she was born on February 3, 2012. *Please welcome Maggie into our church family at Hope and pray for her growth in faith.*

---

### **FUNERALS**

\*non-members

\***George H. Kraus** entered eternal life on March 13, 2012 at the age of 37 years. Funeral services were held at Hope Church with interment at Indianland Cemetery.

\***Jacqueline Gist** entered eternal life on March 27, 2012 at the age of 32 years. A Memorial service was held at Hope Church.

**Monroe G. Hall** entered eternal life on March 29, 2012 at the age of 91 years. Funeral services were held at Hope Church.

*– Our sympathy to family and friends of George, Monroe and Jacqueline. May God continue to be their guide and strength.*

**MAY 2012 PRAYER LIST**

- 5/1/12 Beatrice Burbes and family
- 5/2/12 Eugene, Leann Chandler and family
- 5/3/12 Gregory Smith and family
- 5/4/12 Jessica Ebert-Fabel, Kaitlynn, Alexa Ebert, Sean Fabel and family
- 5/5/12 Rodney, Laurie, Rodney Jr, William Christman and family
- 5/6/12 Sharyn Kratzer and family
- 5/7/12 Marian Burkhardt and family
- 5/8/12 Earle, Jasmine, Jade Neff and family
- 5/9/12 Arling, Marietta Love and family
- 5/10/12 Richard, Susan Demko and family
- 5/11/12 Patricia Schimaneck and family
- 5/12/12 Gary, Dolores Reenok and family
- 5/13/12 Jeffrey, Roxanne, Lauren, Jason Hoch and family
- 5/14/12 James, Arlinda Brown and family
- 5/15/12 Ronald, Kim Roth, Ryan, Lauren Verret and family
- 5/16/12 Craig, Diane, Michael Reenock and family
- 5/17/12 Mandy, Jayson, Landen, Avery Thomas and family
- 5/18/12 Bob, Sue, Alex Tarantino and family
- 5/19/12 Lori Kerper, Justin Bunce, Shaye and family
- 5/20/12 Edward, Mary, Michael, Adam Seko and family
- 5/21/12 David, Gloria Hoppy and family
- 5/22/12 David, Nathaniel, Mikayla Xander and family
- 5/23/12 Harold Itterly and family
- 5/24/12 Wilmer Jr., Sandra Hunsicker and family
- 5/25/12 Natalie, Jacob Savage and family
- 5/26/12 Gregory, Jennifer, Sophia, Olivia Thomas and family
- 5/27/12 Walter, Margaret Holler and family
- 5/28/12 Charles, Patricia Kobal and family
- 5/29/12 Barbara Makowe and family
- 5/30/12 Gregory, Jamie Schmalzer and family
- 5/31/12 Chris, Jolynn, Christian, Ethan Xander and family



**WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU ARE HOSPITALIZED**

- 1) When being admitted give our **Church Code #251**.
- 2) **Give your permission** for the hospital to release your admittance information to the church when we call.
- 3) Have someone call the church office (610) 767-7203 when being admitted to the hospital if you desire a visit.

**RECENT BLOOD DONORS**



The following members of Hope Lutheran Church have recently donated blood: Jeffrey Barber, Denice Budihas, Brenda Mack, Paul Mishko, and Raymond Swinger. Thank you to our faithful blood donors. If you would like to give the gift of life, please call the Miller Blood Center at (610) 691-5850.

***Donor Group Activity Report (Hope Lutheran Church):***

Annual Donation Goal	<b>36</b>
Number of Donations as of Feb. 2012	<b>11</b>
Number of Donations for March 2012	<b>5</b>
Number of Donations YTD (2012)	<b>16</b>
Number of Donations to Reach Goal	<b>20</b>

**MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE**



On Saturday, May 12, 2012 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM the Miller Keystone Blood Center personnel will be available to accept blood donations in Hope's Kuntz Hall for the 18<sup>th</sup> annual blood drive in loving memory of Doug Gable. To help meet the need for blood products especially at this time of year, it is important for everyone to seriously consider sharing this valuable gift. To make an appointment, please call Sharon Hornyak at (610) 760-9891. The blood donated that day will be credited to Hope Lutheran Church blood bank, which covers all members.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**May 13, 2011** – Mother’s Day/Father’s Day Program - 9:15-10:15 AM during the Sunday School hour. The children will report to their classrooms for attendance and offering. Everyone will then gather in the church around 9:30 AM for 30 minutes of music and entertainment.

**May 20, 2012** – Last day of Sunday School – recognize teachers who are retiring at the beginning of both church services.

**June 18, 2012** - Christian Ed. meeting @ 7:00 PM at church – all are invited.

Anyone interested in teaching Sunday School next year, please see Lynn or Nancy in the Christian Education Office.

## MOTHER’S DAY/FATHERS DAY PROGRAM

We will have the short program for all of the parents during the Sunday School hour on May 13, 2012. However, there will be no snack time in Kuntz Hall due to the Brunch that is planned.

## LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

The year will end on May 20, 2012. There will be a short “Outdoor Service” to close the year followed by a picnic (hopefully all outside). A signup list will be sent around for snack donations. Thank you all in advance for your support.

## CATECHETICAL MENTORS

Thank you for your participation in our Catechetical Program so far this year. Level II Mentors - there is one more event, a potluck picnic on Saturday, June 11th beginning at 11:00 AM. You will receive a post card asking for some help with the food.



## CATECHETICAL UPDATE

### **SIXTH GRADE**

✓ Learn confirmation duties such as acolyte, crucifer and nursery attendant on either Wednesday May 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM or Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:45 PM. You must choose one of the dates. Call the church office with your choice. More Information will be mailed.

---

*Since we are very near the end of the catechetical year, it is MOST important that you check the progress charts in the narthex and make sure that you are up to date on all the requirements. Talk to any catechetical teacher if you have questions.*

### **LEVEL II**

✓ Complete Sunday Church School requirement by Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> (our last day of Sunday School).

Complete church attendance requirement by Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>.

✓ Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation Rehearsal at 9:00 AM; Mentor potluck picnic at 11:00 AM.

✓ Even if you completed an outreach project, consider helping with our Gracedale Trip on Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup> or our Nursery School Programs on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, May 22-24. (Please call Robin Hall at (610) 767-9074 for more details on the nursery school programs)

### **LEVEL I**

✓ Complete Sunday Church School requirement by Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> (our last day of Sunday School). Complete church attendance requirement by Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>.

✓ Level I parents help with the confirmation reception on Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.

✓ Even if you completed an outreach project, consider helping with our Gracedale Trip on Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup> or our Nursery School Programs on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, May 22-24. (please call Robin Hall at (610) 767-9074 for more details on the nursery school programs)



## 2012 GRADUATES

### *College Graduates*

<b>John LaBarre</b>	<b>School:</b> Cornell University <b>Degree:</b> B.S. Nutrition <b>Future Plans:</b> Will continue studying at the University of Pennsylvania in the Accelerated Nursing Program.
<b>Brittany Muthard</b>	<b>School:</b> Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania <b>Degree:</b> B.S. Accounting, B.S. Business Admin. <b>Future Plans:</b> To obtain a position in restaurant management.
<b>Alisha Wainwright</b>	<b>School:</b> Kings College <b>Degree:</b> B.S. Health Sciences / Neuroscience <b>Future Plans:</b> Will pursue a Masters in Physician Assistant Studies at Kings College.

### *High School Graduates*

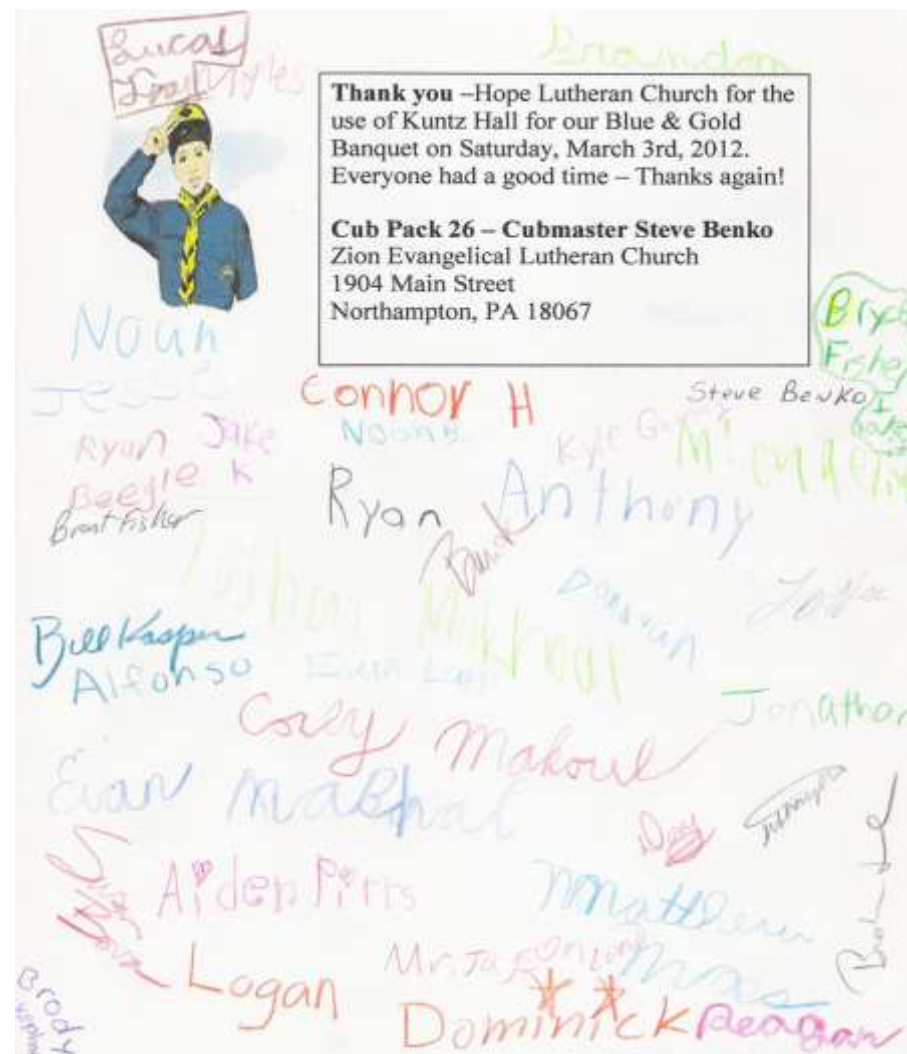
<b>Scott Possinger</b>	<b>School:</b> Parkland High School <b>Future Plans:</b> Attend American University
<b>Julie Wainwright</b>	<b>School:</b> Whitehall High School



## THANK YOU NOTES

A special thanks to everyone from Hope who volunteered at the Northampton Food Bank this month. We had a great turnout everyday and we accomplished a great deal-from packing orders to distributing orders to clients-Hope Church has come through again in assisting others in need. Anyone interested in being part of a list of individuals who can be called upon on an "as needed basis" for packing orders on either Wednesdays or Fridays, please contact Leslie Daniel at (610) 216-1340. This list would be utilized when the food bank is short of volunteers on any given packing day.

**Leslie**



***\$100.00 Donation Enclosed***

*Dear Friends,*

I wish to thank you for your thoughtfulness. Rev. Mraz and Helene Mery, your visits are really appreciated. Thank you all for the bulletins and CD's. Blessings to Pastor Jamie, we miss your services. God bless you all.

***Ella and Ray Edelman***

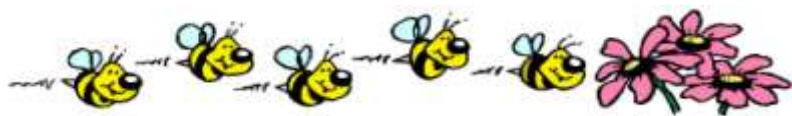
*Dear Pastor Jami, Pastor Mraz, The Prayer Ministry, The Luncheon Group, The Family and Friends of Hope Lutheran Church;*

I do not know where to begin in an attempt to offer our heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you who offered up prayers, kept us in your thoughts, called, wrote, or sent us cards in the recent passing of my husband and our father Joseph Holubowski.

It has been more of a comfort than you will know just knowing that each of you were there in your own special way. To Pastor Jami, for your never ending visits to prayers with Joseph and our family during his stay in the hospital, I know deep in my heart that he appreciated all of them. The time that you spent with our children in helping them to understand and deal with their loss as well as mine. To Pastor Mraz, also your visits were truly appreciated so very much. To Janet Filchner, thank you for the wonderful music. To the Luncheon Group, we thank you for your unselfish time spent providing and outstanding and delicious luncheon after the Memorial, our thanks to you all. I am still receiving compliments on how lovely and delicious it was. To the Prayer Shawl Group, thank you for the gorgeous blanket mad for Joseph while he was in the hospital. It will continue to be cherished and treasured always.

To all our Family and Friends at Hope, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts and will never forget all your kind words of sympathy, your hugs and kindness shown throughout what has been a life altering change in our lives. We will miss Joseph dearly, but are thankful to God for allowing him to share him with us during these times on earth and that we will once again all be together in the glorious and precious kingdom of God. Until then, peace be with you all.

***Pamela Holubowski and Family***



Thank you to Pastor Jami for your prayers and visits while I was in the hospital. Thanks to Pastor Mraz for bringing me communion at my home. Thanks to all the ladies who prepared meals for me, they were delicious and greatly appreciated. Thank you to my church family who sent me cards and lifted me up in prayer, it brought the healing I needed. God bless each of you.

***Georgia Mohrey***

### **2012 SPRING BASKET SOCIAL**



The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Basket Social was held in Kuntz Hall on Friday, April 12, 2012. Monies raised were divided equally between The Northampton Area food Bank and Hope Church's Good Samaritan Fund. The total raised was \$4,348.00. \$2,174.00 was deposited into Hope's account for The Good Samaritan Fund and that same amount was sent, in the form of a check, from Hope Congregation to The Northampton Area Food Bank. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, as part of their Care Abounds in Communities Program, has graciously approved an additional \$700.00 for The Food Bank, PLUS, a separate check has been sent to The Food Bank in the amount of \$252.25 from the sale of baked goods! (A grand total of \$3,126.25 to The Food Bank!!!)

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE** who in some way helped to make this evening successful! The Northampton Area Food Bank thanks everyone who supported this fund raiser and also brought along a canned good or non-perishable item. Hope Church thanks everyone who supported this fund raiser, which helps the Pastors' discretionary (or Good Samaritan) fund, which in turn helps members and/or persons in our community with special needs.

The Basket Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank Kathy Creyer for her years of serving and sharing her talents with the Committee. We send our best wishes to you, Kathy. We also take this opportunity to welcome Jessica Ebert as a new member of

the Basket Committee. Thank you, Jessica. We look forward to working with you in the fall.

Ticket sponsors were Judy & Vince Dieter. Dolores Reenock again shared her delicious home made pierogies with everyone. Some of Hope's members donated money toward the purchase of all rolls and hot dogs. Barbecue, haluski, baked beans, and soup were prepared by members of the Committee and everything else needed for the event was donated by many, many generous people.

Steve Shermetta, Hope's Communication Specialist, was instrumental in making sure the word got out to our local communities. Thanks Steve! Thank you to Craig and Diane Reenock for posting signs around the Township. When one sees those whirly spinners at the local intersections, we then know it's official that Hope's Basket Social is approaching rapidly!

Boy Scouts and leaders of Troop 242 set up tables and chairs the evening prior to the Social, along with helping unload cars and carrying baskets to the tables. At each Social, more volunteers come forth to help sell tickets, serve in the kitchen area, and/or help with clean-up. You know who you are and we appreciate you!

**THE 2012 FALL BASKET SOCIAL IS ON OCTOBER 12, 2012 (Proceeds to Hope's Building Maintenance Fund.)**

***Respectfully submitted by Kathy Fogle, Linda Sidor, and The Basket Committee of Hope Lutheran Church.***

### **SYNOD ASSEMBLY**

The 25<sup>th</sup> annual synod assembly of the Northeastern PA Synod is scheduled to be held at the Sovereign Center, Reading, PA on June 15-16, 2012. More info can be found at [www.godslove.org](http://www.godslove.org).

### **KNOEBELS TRIP**

It's time to look ahead to summer! Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup> we have a pavilion reserved for you at Knoebel's Amusement Park and Picnic Grove in Elysburg, PA. We have the pavilion from 10:00 AM until 10:00 PM. Lunch will be served at about 2:00 PM; we'll have burgers, hot dogs, salads, dessert and drinks. The cost is \$12.00 per person, children 4 and under are free. Included in the \$12.00 cost is drinks and snacks that will be available all day long or as long as they last.

Knoebel's has free parking, free admission and free entertainment all day long. The park is handicapped accessible. They also have stroller, wheelchair, scooter, and wagon rentals. There are numerous exhibits, a coalmine museum and much more. Knoebel's has something for every one of all ages. There are over 50 rides, from kiddie rides up to 2 world-class wooden roller coasters! Look for the sign up sheet in the narthex. Money can be paid as soon as possible. Make checks payable to Hope Lutheran Church and please specify Evangelism outing on the memo line. Call Ernie Doncsecz at (610) 767-6339, John Zmyewski at (610) 767-7260, or the church office at (610) 767-7203 with questions.

### ***Your Evangelism Committee***

### **EVANGELISM COMMITTEE MEETING**

The next Evangelism meeting will now be on May 10, 2012 at 6:30 PM instead of May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Anyone wishing to join our committee is welcome to join us in the library area. If you have any ideas that will enhance our committee to better serve God, please come to our meeting or express your ideas to an Evangelism Committee member.

### **BIBLE STUDY**

The Evangelism Committee invites you to join in on the weekly Bible study every Wednesday evening at 6:30 PM. Come and study scripture with us. Learn and grow in God's Word.

### **PRAYER TENT**

The Evangelism Committee will again sponsor the prayer Tent which is held in support of National Day of Prayer. This year it will be on Thursday, May 3, 2012 from 6:00 AM – 6:00 PM. You may pray in the prayer tent or in the church as long as you need to do so. Pastor Marz will be available to offer communion to anyone wishing to receive it that day. If you have any specific prayer requests and are unable to participate in the day of prayer, please make your requests known to either the office or to someone on the Evangelism committee. Someone will prayer for you that day.

### **GRACEDALE TALENT NIGHT**

On Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup> we will travel to Gracedale to entertain the residents for “talent night”. Everyone is welcome to come along! The residents especially like when children visit with their parents. We will leave Hope’s parking lot at 6:00 PM. The program begins at 7:00 PM. Talent and cookies are needed for this evening of fun. To volunteer your talent, please call Marge Zimmermann at (610) 217-8324. Cookies may be dropped off on the narthex table before 6:00 PM that evening. *Catechetical students – this is a great outreach opportunity.*

### **WELCA MEETING**

There will be a WELCA meeting on Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM. The June meeting will be on June 12<sup>th</sup> with the picnic at 12:00 PM.

### **JONAH**

WELCA is planning to go to Sight and Sound to see “Jonah” on September 18, 2012. There are a few tickets remaining. If you are interested in going along with WELCA, please sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex. The price for a ticket is \$47.00. Please make your check out to Hope Lutheran Church and put “Jonah” in the memo section of your check. Money is due ASAP. This should be a fun day enjoying the show and the beautiful Lancaster area.

### **GODSPELL JR.**

Hope Lutheran Church will present two performances of Godspell Jr. on Sunday, June 3, 2012 at 10:30 AM and 2:00 PM. The performances will be held at the Roxy Theater in Northampton. Tickets are free, but patrons must have a ticket to enter. They can be ordered online at [hopecherryville.org/godspell](http://hopecherryville.org/godspell), by phone at (610) 767-7203 ext. 56, or by email at [musical@hopecherryville.org](mailto:musical@hopecherryville.org).

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY**

Your American Cancer Society Lehigh Valley Unit needs volunteers to drive cancer patients to potential lifesaving treatment. Drivers are needed Monday through Friday, mornings and afternoons. The number of drives you accept is your decision. All that is required is a good driving record, some free time, and the desire to help cancer patients in the Lehigh Valley. Training is provided. Cancer patients in the Lehigh Valley need **you** if they hope to defeat this tough opponent, cancer. Please Call Karen Schiavone at (610) 921-2329.

### **HOPE FEST 2012**

Mark your calendars for Hope Fest 2012, to be held RAIN OR SHINE on Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Hope Fest is open nightly from 5:00 PM – 10:00 PM.

### **HOPE FEST HELP IS NEEDED**

June 22<sup>nd</sup> and June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Volunteers are needed for 2- hour shifts. A set-up and clean-up crew is also needed. Watch for sign-up sheets soon! Cakes and goodies are needed for the raffle, as well as soups to be sold at the stands. Call Bonnie Zmyewski at (610)767-7260 for more information. Please help; we can’t do this without YOU!

### **HOPE FEST CHINESE AUCTION**

Chinese Auction items needed. Please help by donating “NEW” items to our auction. Items or gift certificates can be dropped off in the church office. Your donations are very much appreciated.

### **JEWELRY FOR HOPE FEST**

The basket committee of Hope Church is looking for your gold, silver, costume, even broken jewelry. The ladies are selling jewelry at Hope Fest on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Anything, new or used including watches, tie and money clips, pins, necklaces, rings, etc. even the jewelry box itself. Please drop off your donations in the marked "jewelry" box in the narthex. Your donations are greatly appreciated. Come visit us at Hope Fest to look for a new treasure to wear home.

### **BEAR CREEK CAMP CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2012**



Many of the forms and publicity for these events can be downloaded directly from [www.bearcreekcamp.org](http://www.bearcreekcamp.org). If you would like additional resources or are unable to find what you need online, please call the camp office at

(570) 472-3741. Bear Creek Camp also welcomes calls for any suggestions or feedback you may have.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
May 4 – 6	Film, Friends, and Faith
May 6 (Sunday)	Earth Day Celebration
May 25 – 28	Memorial Day Weekend Camp
June 22	Golf Tournament at Shawnee on Delaware
June 22 – 24	River Camp Reunion at Shawnee of Delaware
June 24 – Aug. 18	Summer Camp
Aug. 31 – Sept. 3	Labor Day Weekend Camp
Sept. 7 – 9	"Old Staff" Alumni Reunion
Oct. 5 – 7	Wild Women Weekend

### **HOPE'S YARD SALE**

As you are spring cleaning, please do not forget about Hope Church's yard sale this summer. More details to follow.

### **TAE KWON DO**



The members of Hope Tae Kwon Do would like to express our sincere congratulations to two of our members – David Deiter and Nevin Moyer. These two Black Belts recently participated in the 2012 Tae Kwon Do Nationals in Houston, Texas. David won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the men's division and Nevin won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the senior men's division. They will both be going to the World Championships in Ottawa, Canada from August 6, 2012 – August 13, 2012. The Tae Kwon Do program, will celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> year as a community outreach program at Hope Lutheran Church. The program teaches strong moral culture centered on the 5 core tenants of Courtesy – Integrity – Perseverance – Self Control – Indomitable Spirit. The program is a non profit endeavor and currently has over 100 participants. Over the years the Tae Kwon Do program has donated many items to the church as well as monetary support for the many projects and fund raisers held at Hope Lutheran Church. Again, congratulations to these two outstanding students who through hard work and dedication have achieved a "world class" level of performance and recognition.

### **LEHIGH TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS**

Plan To Visit the Lehigh Township Historical Centre Open House on Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup> or during the 2012 season, on the second and fourth Sunday of each month up until October, 14, 2012. The centre will open to the public and admission is free. When visiting, you will find many new items and displays which are of interest to the whole family. Spend an afternoon browsing and learning about the past and life in Lehigh Township.

The next monthly meeting of the historical society will be held on Monday, May 14, 2012 at the historical centre in Pennsville at 7:00 PM. Anyone who is interested in the history of Lehigh Township is welcome to attend.

Mark your calendar for the Miniature Golf Day to be held on Saturday, June 9, 2012 at the Blue Mountain Drive-In, which starts at 11:00 AM. It will be a fun event for the whole family. There will be lots to do and your purchase of a ticket will support a fundraiser for the historical society. For more information, call (610) 767-5906.

Construction for an addition to the historical centre has begun. The society is holding fundraisers to cover the cost of the building addition. Your support is much appreciated. For more historical society information, call (610) 767-5989.

### **INDIANLAND GARDEN CLUB PLANT AUCTION**



“Who will give me 50 cents? Who will give me \$1.00? How many plants do you want?” This is what you will hear at the garden club’s next Plant Auction which will be held on Tuesday, May 15, 2012, starting at 7:00 PM in the Hope Lutheran

Church Fellowship Hall. The plant auction is open to the public. If you like auctions and need plants for your landscaping, or home, you will want to attend that evening. There will be a large selection of perennials and a sale table of smaller plants, along with a raffle and light refreshments. Plants will be sold for reasonable prices. Bring a box to put your purchases in. Come out for an evening of fun! For more information, call (610) 767-8420.

### **RETIREMENT WORKSHOP SPONSORED BY THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS**

Saving for retirement is only half the challenge. Making your money last is all about how you distribute it. Also, do you have legal or tax questions pertaining to retirement? Three local chapters of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans; Lower Northampton County, Upper Northampton County, and Monroe County are joining together to sponsor this retirement workshop. In addition to information provided by Financial Associates of Thrivent Financial, other

professionals will present information and be available to answer your legal, tax, and long-term care questions.

Anyone is welcome to attend this workshop, however, seating is limited. A complimentary breakfast buffet is included. Please contact a Thrivent Financial Chapter Leader or our local Thrivent Financial Associate Jewel Williamson-Burns at either (610) 746-0344 or jewel.williamson-burns@thrivent.com to reserve a seat. An RSVP is required.

### ***Retirement Workshop***

Saturday, May 5, 2012  
8:30 AM – 11:00 AM  
J&R’s Smokehouse  
1420 Jacobsburg Road  
Wind Gap, PA 18091



### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2012**



Mark your calendars now for Vacation Bible School. VBS will be held Monday, July 9, 2012 through Friday, July 13, 2012 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM. New this year, the closing program will be on Friday, July 13, 2012 at 7:00 PM. Our theme this year is “Shake It Up Café.” It’s easy to register

by going online at [vbs.hopecherryville.org](http://vbs.hopecherryville.org) or from your mobile phone using the same URL. Children ages 3 (potty trained) through 6<sup>th</sup> grade (completed 2012) are eligible to register. Many volunteers are also needed. So come see what’s cooking and spice up your summer by attending our VBS where you can learn about Jesus and his disciples. Paper registration forms are also available in the narthex.



**READING THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR**

If you wish to strengthen your daily faith, here is a plan to read through the Bible in one year (Continued). These are the readings for the month of May.

	Sunday <i>Epistles</i>	Monday <i>The Law</i>	Tuesday <i>History</i>	Wednesday <i>Psalms</i>	Thursday <i>Poetry</i>	Friday <i>Prophecy</i>	Saturday <i>Gospels</i>
<b>Week 1</b> May 1-5			Joshua 21-24	Psalms 12-14	Job 9-10	Isaiah 23-28	Matthew 11-13
<b>Week 2</b> May 6-12	Romans 11-12	Genesis 20-23	Judges 1-6	Psalms 15-17	Job 11-12	Isaiah 29-33	Matthew 14-16
<b>Week 3</b> May 13-19	Romans 13-14	Genesis 24-27	Judges 7-11	Psalms 18-20	Job 13-14	Isaiah 34-39	Matthew 17-19
<b>Week 4</b> May 20-26	Romans 15-16	Genesis 28-31	Judges 12-16	Psalms 21-23	Job 15-16	Isaiah 40-44	Matthew 20-22
<b>Week 5</b> May 27-31	I Corinthians 1-2	Genesis 32-35	Judges 17-21	Psalms 24-26	Job 17-18		

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE  
MAY 2012**

<p><b>Sunday, May 6, 2012</b> 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Service of the Word</p>	<p><b>Sunday, May 13, 2012</b> 8:00 AM Service of the Word 9:15 AM Mother's/Father's Day Program/Reception (Kuntz Hall) 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Holy Communion</p>
<p><b>Sunday, May 20, 2012</b> <i>Bear Creek Camp Presentation by Pastor Don Hayn Special Offering Taken</i> 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:15 AM Sunday School (Last Day of Sunday School) 10:30 AM Service of the Word</p>	<p><b>Sunday, May 27, 2012</b> 8:00 AM Service of the Word 10:30 AM Holy Communion 10:30 AM Confirmation/ Reception (Kuntz Hall)</p>

**FINANCIAL REPORT - MARCH 31, 2012**

	YEAR 2012		YEAR 2011	
<b>REGULAR FUND</b>				
Equity Beginning of Year		\$ 51,591.04		\$ 6,895.69
Income - March	\$ 29,252.25		\$ 30,828.18	
Income - Jan.-Feb.	58,063.35		48,744.81	
Total Income	87,315.60		79,572.99	
Expenses - March	26,993.07		22,362.43	
Expenses - Jan.-Feb.	51,329.36		49,882.91	
Total Expenses	78,322.43		72,245.34	
Net Income		8,993.17		7,327.65
<b>SPECIAL APPEALS</b>				
Income - March	793.00		238.00	
Income - Jan.-Feb.	3,009.00		140.00	
Total Income	3,802.00		378.00	
Expenses - March	793.00		238.00	
Expenses - Jan.-Feb.	3,009.00		125.00	
Total Expenses	3,802.00		363.00	
Net Special Appeals		-		15.00
Equity End of March		\$ 60,584.21		\$ 14,238.34
<b>BUILDING FUND</b>				
Equity Beginning of Year		\$ 129,840.65		\$ 100,974.91
Income - March	\$ 2,741.39		\$ 10,107.52	
Income - Jan.-Feb.	6,157.68		7,351.83	
Total Income	8,899.07		17,459.35	
Expenses - March	1,294.01		669.01	
Expenses - Jan.-Feb.	625.00		-	
Total Expenses	1,919.01		669.01	
Net Income		6,980.06		16,790.34
Equity End of March		\$ 136,820.71		\$ 117,765.25
<b>MEMORIAL FUND</b>				
Equity Beginning of Year		\$ 88,274.75		\$ 77,040.44
Equity End of March		\$ 89,986.65		\$ 84,497.44
<b>SCHOLARSHIP LOAN/CAP IMP FUND</b>				
Equity Beginning of Year		\$ 84,119.44		\$ 88,786.77
Equity End of March		\$ 88,042.77		\$ 93,809.70

**SUMMARY:**

Income exceeded expenses in the Regular Fund for the month of March by \$2,259.18, and for the year 2012, income exceeded expenses by \$8,993.17, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$60,584.21. Last year the net income for the same period was \$7,327.65 with a balance of \$14,238.34.

Budget Comparison--Total Regular Fund Budget for 2012 is \$373,622.00. 13/53 of that figure is \$91,643.13. Our receipts in the Regular Fund for the three months were \$87,315.60. So, we are behind budget by \$4,327.53.

**APRIL 2012 COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS**

- ⚓ Council approved the following new members:
  - Michelle Hughes and her children Dawson and Ryleigh
  - Edward Clewell
  - Stephen Sook and his daughter Taylor
  - Susan Meyer and her granddaughter Ciara DeLaurentis
  - Matthew Seip
  - Darlene and Charles Pioli and foster daughter Lanette Garland
  - Kathy Williams
  - Melissa Hayduscko
  - Jill (Neff) Schwartz
- ⚓ The new church sign, which will be placed on the Lehigh Drive frontage of the church, has received final approval from the township. We anticipate having it installed within the next 4-5 weeks.
- ⚓ Hope is still in need of a female delegate for the Synod Assembly being held on June 15-16 in Reading. If you know of someone who might be interested please speak with the Pastor.
- ⚓ The Memorial Garden Committee is working with the township to get final approval to begin construction of the Memorial Garden.
- ⚓ Council would like to thank our members for their continued financial support which helps us to successfully fund our ministry and grow new programs.
- ⚓ The Evangelism Committee will celebrate National Day of Prayer on May 3<sup>rd</sup> by making available a prayer tent for the community to utilize. People are encouraged to drop by for prayer and conversation.
- ⚓ The Property Committee presented several items for approval:

- Repair of the outside door frame near the choir room which needs to be replaced.
- Replacement of three flood lights in the front of the sanctuary with new LED spotlights.
- Updating all lighting throughout the building. Replacement of all exit sign lighting and motion sensor switches to be installed in all classrooms, offices and bathrooms. The current ceiling lights throughout the facility are being phased out – bulbs will no longer be made for them after July 2012. PPL is currently offering rebates for this work which will save the congregation almost \$5000. This upgrade will offer us more efficient and more cost-effective lighting.

<b><u>TENTATIVE NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE</u></b>		
All committees, groups and persons submitting information for the church newsletter should follow the schedule listed below.		
<b><u>Edition</u></b>	<b><u>Deadline for Articles</u></b>	<b><u>Collation Date</u></b>
June	Monday, May 21	Thursday, May 24
July	Monday, June 18	Thursday, June 21
August	Monday, July 23	Thursday, July 26
These dates are subject to change. More dates will be added in upcoming newsletters. Please email your articles to Steve Shermetta at <a href="mailto:communications@hopecherryville.org">communications@hopecherryville.org</a> . Thanks!		







**GERANIUMS FOR PENTECOST**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 27, 2012**

Geraniums will be placed near the altar on Pentecost Sunday, May 27, 2012. Their beautiful red flowers will help us remember the “fire” of that first Pentecost. Sponsors are needed (Cost = \$5.00 per sponsor) to help with the cost of purchasing and planting these flowers around the church (hopefully that same day). If you would like to remember a loved one or honor a family member or friend by being a sponsor, ***(CONFIRMATION PARENTS, WHAT A WONDERFUL WAY TO CELEBRATE YOUR CHILD’S SPECIAL DAY, WE WOULD LIKE ALL CONFIRMATION STUDENTS TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE FLOWER SPONSORED)***, please fill out the form below by Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. Money must accompany orders and orders and money should be placed in a plain white envelope marked “Geraniums” and placed in the offering box or locked box in the narthex. Thank you!

**GERANIUMS FOR PENTECOST ON MAY 27, 2012**  
**DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS MAY 20, 2012**  
**COST FOR SPONSORSHIP: \$5.00**

-----  
**GERANIUM ORDERS**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**CIRCLE ONE:**

- IN CELEBRATION OF...**
- IN HONOR OF...**
- IN MEMORY OF...**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ENVELOPE #** \_\_\_\_\_

**AMOUNT ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I CAN HELP PLANT GERANIUMS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE #** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOPE LUTHERAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

*Hope Church offers scholarship money to full-time college students. Funds are available for the 2012-2013 school year and all full-time college students who are members in good standing of Hope, Cherryville, and are in their second year (or higher) of study are encouraged to apply. The requirements of eligibility are:*

- 1. attending an accredited college or university full time**
- 2. will be entering second year (or higher) of college in fall of 2012**
- 3. is a member in good standing of Hope Lutheran Church, Cherryville, PA**

Applications can be obtained by phoning 610-767-7203 or by emailing the church office at office@hopecherryville.org. The deadline for applications to reach the church office is **Friday, July 21, 2012**. (Recipients of scholarship awards will be invited to be at either worship service on Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup> to receive the first of two checks, the second of which will be **sent** the first week in January 2012).



-----  
**HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES**

*We need names of high school/college/university graduates from Hope’s members who are graduating this spring! They will be included in our July/August issue of The Hope Home News. Please fill out the form below and return it to the church office as soon as possible! Thanks!*

**STUDENT’S**  
**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**GRADUATING**  
**FROM** \_\_\_\_\_

**FUTURE**  
**PLANS** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS AS OF SEPT. 2012 (IF KNOWN)**

***Graduate Recognition Sunday will be on June 10<sup>th</sup> at both services***

# SYNOD NEWS

The Spirit of Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

May 2012



## 2012 Assembly, Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod June 15-16, 2012; Sovereign Center, Reading

Be who you are.  
See what you  
have. **Do what matters.**

Congregations across the synod have been exploring these principles of faithful discipleship for more than a year. They are discovering where God is on the loose in their congregations and in the world around them – and finding ways to do what matters together as God's people.

The 25th annual assembly of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod will celebrate *God's People Doing What Matters Together*.

Highlights of the assembly include worship, two forum sessions on Friday morning and service projects in the Reading area during the forum time. Agencies, ministry teams, and groups will illustrate their mission through interactive displays. Learn about the ways you are involved in doing what matters through these groups.

Our ELCA representative is Ms. Jodi Slattery, Assistant to the Presiding Bishop for Governance. In addition to reporting on the ministry of the ELCA, on Saturday afternoon she will join Bishop Zeiser and synod vice president Dawn Baxter on a panel answering questions from assembly participants.

More information, including registration information and forms, biographies of those celebrating 50 years of rostered ministries, the tentative agenda, forms for requesting forum time and display space, the resolution submittal



form, and housing information, may be found on the assembly page. Click the link on the home page at [www.godslove.org](http://www.godslove.org). A link to online registration is also on the home page. Assembly packets were mailed to congregations and rostered leaders in mid-April.

## Birds of a Feather: God's People Doing What Matters Together

"We will build a network that uses our gifts, skills, and resources to maximize what we can do together and strengthen congregations in their ministry." That's the task assigned to the synod's Connection Building Ministry Team, and it fits well with the theme of the 2012 Synod Assembly: *God's People Doing What Matters Together*.

Because connecting with and supporting the congregations of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod is so important, the Connection Building Ministry Team invites you to join us for a "Birds of a Feather" session on Friday, June 15, during the synod assembly.

From 7-7:45 p.m., people will gather in eight focus groups to meet one another and begin talking about how we can connect, communicate and collaborate on projects within the larger church. The focus groups are council presidents, stewardship leaders, youth ministry leaders, evangelism leaders, musicians, webmasters, people interested in mission trips, and people involved with the *Do What Matters* emphasis.

You can sign up for a group when you register for the synod assembly at <http://bit.ly/H4axNU> or you can come just for a "Birds of a Feather" group by signing up at <http://conta.cc/H2FQvo>. You are invited to stay afterwards for the festival worship service at 8 p.m.



Volume 20, Issue 5

Synod News

## Synod Ministry Teams Witness and Service Ministry Team: Helping You Do What Matters

Your congregation has a great idea and it's time to make it happen. If some seed money can help make your goals a reality, we would like to help! Consistent with the synod's spiritual growth goals and the *Do What Matters* emphasis, the Witness and Service Ministry Team has set aside grant money for congregations that meet these criteria:

1. A mission-focused ministry project
2. Start up costs for a new ministry
3. A cooperative ministry idea

To qualify, this venture needs to be funded in part by the congregation and not totally by this grant. So let us help you *do what matters* and apply for a grant. You will find an application on the synod website, [www.godslove.org](http://www.godslove.org). Click the link to the application in the *Links* column.

## 2012 Lutheran Youth Fellowship Assembly June 22-24, 2012, Muhlenberg College

The 2012 LYF Assembly will kick off on Friday night, June 22, with registration at 6 p.m. followed by fun activities to help everyone get to know each other. Participants can choose workshops that interest them, participate in worship that youth help plan and lead, play games, dance, and lots more. Pastor Doug Holtz is our chaplain.

Bonus for congregations that have not sent any youth to an assembly in the past six years or more: To help nudge youth to attend, we are offering scholarship funds to help you get there!

Youth completing 8th through 12th grades are invited to register. A registration form, medical release form, poster, and scholarship form can be found on the synod website. Click the LYF assembly link on the home page.

Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA; 2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109; 610-266-5101; [Info@nepsynod.org](mailto:Info@nepsynod.org); [www.godslove.org](http://www.godslove.org)



## Family Faith Challenge

Take part in the monthly family faith challenges developed by the synod's Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry Team!

The theme for May is *Gifts and Abilities*: We challenge you to notice how God has created people with different gifts and abilities.

**Week one:** Name five things that make each family member special. **Week two:** Share stories of the important women in your life. **Week three:** Look up the meaning of your first name and share how it fits who you are. **Week four:** Learn about our companion synods and the area in which each is located.

For a list of all the family faith challenges, click the link on the synod home page at [www.godslove.org](http://www.godslove.org).

## Synod Support Staff Going on the Road

The synod support staff is hosting luncheons for parish secretaries to give them a virtual tour of the Lutheran Center and to tell them about the support staff's responsibilities there. Invitations will be sent by e-mail or snail mail to all congregations. The gathering for parish secretaries in the East and West Berks Mission Districts will be held at Bern, Bern Township, on May 31. Plans are being made for the Hazleton/Lehigh, Pocono, Schuylkill, and Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Mission Districts. In March, the staff enjoyed lunch and fellowship with 40 secretaries from the Bethlehem/Easton, Lehigh, and Northern Lehigh Valley Mission Districts.

## Bike for World Hunger

Saturday, May 19, 9 AM-3 PM  
Bob Rodale Cycling and Fitness Park

## Responding to God's Call 2012 WELCA Convention June 9; Union, Schnecksville

For information about and to register for both events, click the links on the synod website at [www.godslove.org](http://www.godslove.org).



# 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Blood Drive



**MILLER-KEYSTONE**  
BLOOD CENTER

**Date:** Saturday, May 12, 2012

**Time:** 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**Location:** Kuntz Hall at Hope Lutheran Church

Miller Keystone Blood Center personnel will be available to accept blood donations in loving memory of Doug Gable. The blood donated that day will be credited to the Hope Lutheran Church blood bank, which covers all members. To make an appointment, please call Sharon Hornyak at (610) 760-9891.

Hope Lutheran Church  
4131 Lehigh Drive, P.O. Box 1030  
Cherryville, PA 18035-1030  
(610) 767-7203  
[www.hopecherryville.org](http://www.hopecherryville.org)



**Share this Valuable Gift!**

# Mother's Day Buffet

**May 13, 2012**

Homemade Soups, Salad  
Roast Beef, Chicken Cacciatore  
Glazed Ham w/ Pineapple sauce  
Seafood Alfredo  
Homemade Mashed Potatoes  
Garden vegetables  
Roll & Butter, Drinks, &  
Homemade Asst. Desserts

**Prices Adults \$15/Children 10 and under \$7.50/**

**Children under 3 free**

**RESERVATIONS ONLY**

**One hour seatings starting at 12 noon until 5pm**

**Limited space per seating**

**Last day to buy tickets is Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup>**

**BENEFITS YOUTH ATTENDING NEW ORLEANS YOUTH GATHERING**

