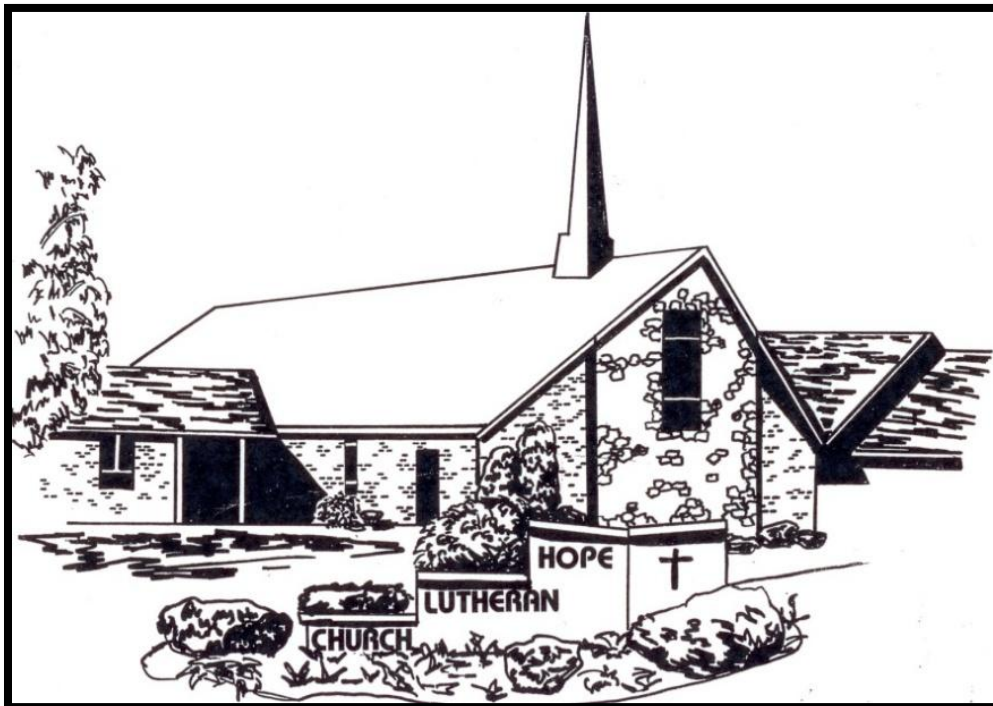


HOPE HOME NEWS

Vol. XXXIX No. 8 August, 2012



Published Monthly by:

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
4131 LEHIGH DRIVE, P.O. BOX 1030
CHERRYVILLE, PA 18035
(610) 767-7203
www.hopecherryville.org

Summer Hours

Sunday Worship at 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM

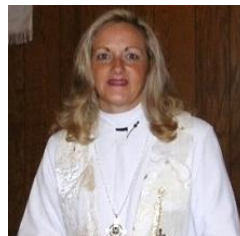
Summer Church Office Hours

Mon., Wed., Thurs. (7:30 AM – Noon)
Tues. (9:00 AM – 2:00 PM), Fri. (7:30 AM – 3:00 PM)

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...**Please call the church office at (610) 767-7203**

REGARDING	CALL	PHONE NO.
Basket Committee	Linda Sidor	610-767-8372
Boy Scouts	John Demczyszyn	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.....



When I was a young child, two Lutheran congregations in my home town came together to offer Vacation Bible School. One of the members of the congregation ran a bus company and he would drive his bus around and pick up all the kids who could not walk to VBS. I lived pretty far from the church and so I rode the Bible School bus for many years. It brings back such fond memories whenever I think about it and I realize now how much of an impact the program and the people had on my life.

Well, we just finished up a week of Vacation Bible School here at Hope. It was a jammed-packed, fun-filled, faith-forming week for everyone who attended and everyone who helped! We hosted 227 children and had over 100 volunteers present to make the program flow smoothly. During the week we collected over 1700 pounds of food for the Northampton Food Bank and over \$700.00 to assist the 1 ½ year old great-granddaughter of one of our members who is undergoing chemotherapy for leukemia. And...almost ½ of the children who attended were not members but came from the surrounding community! Many, many thanks to Kathy Ziegler and Jen Ventura who coordinated this wonderful ministry.

All this got me to thinking how precious these children who attended VBS are to us and to God. As I went through the week I couldn't help but think how children are works in progress--works of art, if we allow them to be so and help them to be so. Spending time with them – REALLY listening to them – sharing our faith with them is so important.

It is remarkable how much effect our sharing of positive energy can have on others. It's amazing to see how another human being can feel so much better when they receive positive input from us. The way that we treat children is part of our contribution to the world – so I try to keep in mind that my encouragement and praise can have a much broader effect than just making a child feel

good for the moment--it can add a sense of confidence and self-respect to that child's emotional development that can never be taken away.

So thank you, members of Hope Lutheran Church, for seeing the need and the impact that a wonderfully creative VBS can have on a community. I am convinced that when we give sincerely out of love--unconditionally, without expectations of return--then we can truly contribute great things to our community and to the lives of young people in our midst!

Blessings,
Pastor Jami

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Although this is one to chuckle about we often find some truth in jest!



There was this \$20 bill and a \$1 bill on the conveyer belt at the Federal Reserve Building. As they were laying there side by side, the \$1 bill said to the \$20 bill, "Hey Man, where have you been?" The \$20 bill replied, "Man, I have been having a ball! I've been traveling to distant countries, going to the finest restaurants, to the biggest and best casinos, boutiques, the mall uptown, the mall downtown, the mall across town, and even the new mall. In fact, just this week I've been to Europe, a pro-football game, Rodeo Drive, an all day retreat spa, the top notch hair salon, and the new casino in Bethlehem...I've done it all!"

After describing his great travels the \$20 bill asked the \$1 bill "What about you?" The \$1 bill replied, well I've been to the Baptist Church, the Methodist Church, the Presbyterian Church, the Episcopalian Church, the Catholic Church, the Mormon Church, and Hope Lutheran Church..." "Wait a minute! Wait a minute!" shouted the \$20 bill, "What's a Church?"



PASTORAL ACTS

HOLY BAPTISMS

Pastor Jami officiated at the following baptisms.

Hayden Lee Chandler was baptized on Sunday, June 24, 2012 during the 9:30 AM worship service.

Hayden is the son of Andrew and Anna (Tesseyman) Chandler and he was born on January 7, 2012.

Cole Michael Yost was baptized on Sunday, June 24, 2012 during the 9:30 AM worship service. Cole is the son of Michael and Jessica (Rapchak) Yost and he was born on April 21, 2012.

Nathan James Hahn was baptized on Sunday, July 15, 2012 during the 9:30 AM worship service.

Nathan is the son of Joshua and Sherie (Fritzing) Hahn and he was born on April 21, 2012.

Jacob Michael Meleski was baptized on Sunday, July 15, 2012 during the 9:30 AM worship service.

Jacob is the son of Daniel Meleski and Trisha (Szoke) Remaley and he was born on March 14, 2012.

Please welcome Hayden, Cole, Nathan and Jacob into our church family at Hope and pray for their growth in faith.

MARRIAGES

Pastor Jami officiated at the following marriages.

Marie Irene Shook and Jason Roy Rice were married on July 7, 2012 at Hope Lutheran Church.

Daniel H. Neff Jr. and Jill L. Schwartz were married on July 14, 2012 at Hope Lutheran Church.

Congratulations to these couples. Please pray that they always remember the promises made before God on their very special day.

SUMMER HYMN SING

"SING-ALONG WITH DAVID"

The All-Request Time

Weekly on Sunday Mornings

7:45 AM and 9:15 AM



SUMMER WORSHIP

Please attend worship regularly this summer while at home or on vacation. Also, please remember your church with regular offerings. Hope's expenses continue all summer and it is a season when we get behind with our finances. Incidentally, your envelopes can be dropped directly in the mail

with first class postage. Have an enjoyable summer as you take time to appreciate God's wonderful creation.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships will be awarded on Sunday, August 5th during both worship services. If you applied for a scholarship, you will receive a letter inviting you to Scholarship Sunday by the end of July.



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS



Blessing of Backpacks

Each year when Sunday school ramps up for the fall we take time in worship to bless the teachers as they begin a new year of teaching. This year, as summer draws to a close and the new school year begins for our youth we'd like to take the time to bless their endeavors as well. **So on Sunday, August 26 we invite all children to bring the backpacks they will be using for school in the 2012-2013 academic year to church and have them blessed during worship!**

We'll be offering this opportunity at both the 8:00 AM and the 9:30 AM services. Parents and other adults are invited to bring along their laptop bags, briefcases or folders and have them blessed as well! We will also include bus drivers, cafeteria workers, principals, teachers and all who work in the school systems in our prayers so we hope you will all join us for worship! Let's all start off a new school year with God's blessings.

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers
Needed 

There is currently a need for volunteers for the Sunday school class. This is a great opportunity for someone who is studying to be a teacher or for a young teenager who has some free time on Sunday mornings. If you are interested, please contact Lynn LaBarre through the church website.

AUGUST 2012 PRAYER LIST

8/1/12	Harry and Kathleen Kunkle and family
8/2/12	Scott, Janelle, Tucker Ellis and family
8/3/12	Jim and Debbie Gardner and family
8/4/12	Tanya, Ava Graver and family
8/5/12	Kent Hittinger and family
8/6/12	Sis Livermon and family
8/7/12	Eugene Gower and family
8/8/12	Kenneth Beers and family
8/9/12	Arline Fasching and family
8/10/12	Paul, Julie, Joshua, Katelyn Graver and family
8/11/12	Clinton, Alexander, Lucas, Ivy and family
8/12/12	Vincent, Judith Dieter and family
8/13/12	Charles, Kim, Patrick Kutzler and family
8/14/12	Donald Benninger and family
8/15/12	Jerry, Susan Binder and family
8/16/12	Lee, Joanne Creyer and family
8/17/12	Lynn, John, John, Jennifer and family
8/18/12	Terri, Edward, Alex, Amanda Clewell and family
8/19/12	Donald Saunders and family
8/20/12	Clark, Maureen Kuntz and family
8/21/12	Brandon Loch and family
8/22/12	Edward Cherry and family
8/23/12	Karyn, Ashley, Anthony DioDoardo and family
8/24/12	William, Tanya, Aaron Lamarter and family
8/25/12	Justine Tracy and family
8/26/12	Mildred Binder and family
8/27/12	Daniel, Katherine, Juliana, Kacee, Sophia Medei and family
8/28/12	Paul, Debbie, Kailee Leibenguth and family
8/29/12	Thomas Sidor and family
8/30/12	Debra Trzesniowski and family
8/31/12	Betty Billig and family

RECENT BLOOD DONORS



The following members of Hope Lutheran Church have recently donated blood: Jeffrey Barber, Craig Carvin, 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	36
Number of Donations as of May 2012	62
Number of Donations for June 2012	3
Number of Donations YTD (2012)	65
Number of Donations to Reach Goal	0

THANK YOU NOTES

The Hope Fest Committee would like to thank everyone who attended this year’s festival. We would also like to thank everyone who volunteered their time. Also, thank you for all the food, prizes, and monetary donations. This year we raised \$3,500.00 that will be donated to the Kuntz Hall kitchen renovations.

The Hope Fest Committee

Thank you to everyone who donated or purchased jewelry at Hope Fest. A sum of \$500 will be given to Hope Lutheran Church for summertime expenses. Thank you to the members of the Basket Committee for helping to set up and sell jewelry. Hopefully, we will see you again next year at Hope Fest. Please save all you bobbles and trinkets for next year’s sale. Thanks for your generosity.

The Basket Committee

Dear Members of Hope,

Well my grandmother made it to the big 100th Birthday. Thank you for the notes and cards to you sent to Marie. She looked at each and every one of them with curiosity and a happy smile. She enjoyed her birthday cake and even sang along with everyone. Your card shower really touched my families' hearts.

Lynn LaBarre



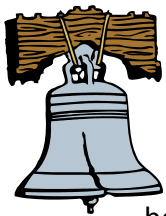
To all of the vacation bible school children, staff and families,

Your recent efforts in collecting food items for the Northampton Area Food Bank were absolutely tremendous. During each day of vacation bible school, it was very exciting to see the shopping carts filled with food that was brought in by all of the children, staff, and families. Finding items for a different food group each day was surely a challenge. The daily totals were, 344 pounds of bread/cereals, grains; 426 pounds of fruit items; 479 pounds of vegetable items; 224 pounds of dairy items; and 258 pounds of protein/meat items for a grand total of 1731 pounds. That's an average of almost 8 pounds of food per child who attended vacation bible school! A tremendous thank you to everyone that made this possible. Those families who are served by the Northampton Area Food Bank are very grateful for your thoughtfulness and giving spirit.

Leslie Daniel

Hope Church representative for the NAFB

DEAD SEA SCROLLS



We will be making a trip to Philadelphia to the Franklin Institute for a once in a lifetime opportunity to view the Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. The date is

Saturday, September 8. Leave Hope's parking lot at 8:30 AM. Cost = \$50.00 for adults, \$45 for children under 12. The price includes bus fare, entry to the exhibit and snacks on the bus. Lunch will be on your own. Deadline to sign up is August 19th at 12:00 PM. Checks should be made payable to Hope Lutheran Church (scrolls trip noted in memo). An orientation class will be held on Wednesday, September 5th at 7:00 PM in Kuntz Hall.

Attendance is strongly suggested. Questions, call Bob Small at (610) 428-3231.

CLOTHING NOW ACCEPTABLE FOR YARD SALE

Clothing is now an acceptable item for the Hope Lutheran Church Annual Yard Sale. Items may be dropped off in the church narthex on weekdays from 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM.

CAMP NOAH 2012

St. John's Lutheran Church is graciously hosting our first Camp Noah this year, June 25-29. The "national team" leading this camp is made up of PSU Berks Campus students led by Jayne Leh. The team from Friedens, Oley is preparing to serve in the Athens/Sayre area. Their port-of-call will be the fire station where families were housed immediately after the flood. Volunteers from the Seventh Day Adventist Church and the Valley Relief Council are serving as the local hosts, recruiting the children, and preparing food and housing. Pine Grove will host a camp August 6-10. Fifteen children are already identified. Now we need "crew members" to lead this program Contact Ruth if you can serve (484) 553-162.

QUILTS IN – QUILTS OUT



From the beginning of September through June 8, we have received 438 quilts for Camp Noah with word of many more to come. Kathy Creyer has made about 40 quilts to date for Camp Noah. Those quilts not needed for our local camps are being packed and shipped to Minnesota for distribution in Minot, Joplin, Alabama, and other disaster recovery sites.

INDIANLAND GARDEN CLUB

The next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 14, at 7:00 PM, in the Hope Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall. Kay Johns of Point Phillips Perennials will be the speaker. Members are reminded to bring the club project distributed at the May meeting. After the speaker, there will be light refreshments and a business meeting. Visitors and new members are welcome. For more information, please call (610) 767-8420.

INK CARTRIDGE AND TONER RECYCLING



Recycle your empty ink and toner cartridges and Hope Church will get \$2 back in Staples Rewards for each one. So not only will we save on future purchases, but we can also feel good about reducing waste in our landfills. Please deposit them in the box located in the narthex.



PENNY PARTY

The Northampton Area Food Bank is sponsoring a Penny Party on Sunday, August 19th in Kuntz Hall of Hope Lutheran Church. Doors open at 12:00 PM and the fun begins at 1:00 PM. There will be refreshments, a raffle, and bake sale in addition to the Penny Party. So bring your pennies, spare change and even a few dollars for a chance to win food or household items and even some baked goods for just pennies at this fun-filled event. For additional information, please call Barbara Budnik at (610) 262-6156. Hope to see everyone there!

LEAVE A LEGACY FOR MINISTRY AND MISSION

Qualified Retirement Plans (IRAs, 401Ks, 403Bs) are a great way to save for retirement. Accumulations build up tax-free until you need them for retirement. But when you go to take the money out or worse yet, try to pass the accumulated value on to your heirs, your qualified plan can become an "Internal Revenue Account". That's why qualified retirement plans make great vehicles for making charitable gifts. It's quite possible that by using your qualified retirement plan to make a significant gift to your congregation or other favorite ELCA ministry, you can actually leave more of your estate to your heirs and less to estate taxes. For more information about how to use Qualified Retirement Accounts to make charitable gifts, please call Pr. Greg Kramer at the Lutheran Planned Giving Office at 570-374-2044 or call the ELCA Foundation, 800/638-3522, ext. 2970 or visit our website at www.elca.org/fo.

SENIOR BIRTHDAY PARTY



On Saturday, August 18th, there will be a Birthday Party for any senior member of Hope Church. The party/picnic will begin at 11:30 AM in Kuntz Hall. There will be food, fellowship and entertainment. Mark your calendars now and sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

NURSERY SCHOOL


The Hope Lutheran Church Nursery School is still accepting registrations for the 2012-2013 school year. To register your child or for more information, contact Deb Gable at (610) 767-7523 ext. # 28.

We are now on



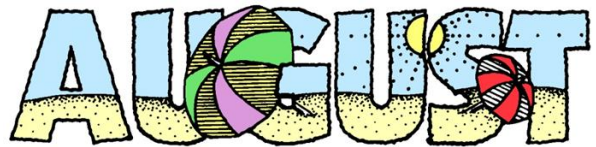
Hope Lutheran Nursery School



Help us spread the word and  our page!
www.facebook.com/HopeLutheranNurserySchool

WORSHIP SCHEDULE – AUGUST 2012

<p><u>Sunday, August 5, 2012</u> <i>Scholarships Awarded</i> 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:30 AM Service of the Word</p>
<p><u>Sunday, August 12, 2012</u> 8:00 AM Service of the Word 9:30 AM Holy Communion</p>
<p><u>Sunday, August 19, 2012</u> 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:30 AM Service of the Word</p>
<p><u>Sunday, August 26, 2012</u> <i>Blessing of the Backpacks</i> 8:00 AM Service of the Word 9:30 AM Holy Communion</p>



NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

All committees, groups and persons submitting information for the church newsletter should follow the schedule listed below.

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Article Deadline</u>	<u>Collation Date</u>
September	Mon, Aug. 27	Thurs, Aug. 30
October	Mon, Sept. 24	Thurs, Sept. 30
November	Mon, Oct. 22	Thurs, Oct. 25

Please email your articles to Steve Shermetta (communications@hopecherryville.org) by **12:00 PM** on the deadline date. Thank You

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 August.

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>
			Psalms 51-53	Job 35-36	Jeremiah 27-31	Mark 15-16
II Corinthians 6-8	Exodus 21-24	II Samuel 10-14	Psalms 54-56	Job 37-38	Jeremiah 32-36	Luke 1-2
II Corinthians 9-10	Exodus 25-28	II Samuel 15-19	Psalms 57-59	Job 39-40	Jeremiah 37-41	Luke 3-4
II Corinthians 11-13	Exodus 29-32	II Samuel 20-24	Psalms 60-62	Job 41-42	Jeremiah 42-46	Luke 5-6
Galatians 1-3	Exodus 33-36	I Kings 1-4	Psalms 63-65	Proverbs 1	Jeremiah 47-52	

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FOR JULY 2012

- ! Council approved the updated job description for the Treasurer.
- ! The Memorial Garden Committee will be meeting with the Lehigh Township Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, July 17th in a public hearing regarding the appeal to construct the Memorial Garden.
- ! A "Work Day" has been scheduled for Saturday, August 11th from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM to complete outside yard work – shrub trimming, cleaning up the beds, weeding, etc. Anyone who can help for any portion of that time period is encouraged to come.
- ! The congregational trip to view the Dead Sea Scrolls at the Franklin Institute has been scheduled for Saturday, September 8, 2012. The cost will be \$50.00 for adults and \$45.00 for children under 12 and will include the cost of the bus, entrance into the Franklin Institute and snacks. Lunch will be on your own. The tentative schedule is departure from Hope parking lot at 8:30 AM and returning around 5:30 PM. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hallway near the church office.
- ! Council approved the recommendation from property to repaint and re-carpet Hanson Hall.
- ! The HVAC unit in Kuntz Hall was replaced in July. The old unit failed again and the decision was

made to replace rather than to repair it. The cost for the project was approximately \$15,000. The money came from the building fund. Council encourages members to remember to use the section of their envelopes labeled "Building Fund" to make contributions to this area of ministry.

- ! The call committee continues to move forward in our process to call an Assistant Pastor for our congregation.
- ! Social Ministry Committee will hold the annual "Senior Birthday Party" on Saturday, August 18th at 11:30 AM. Lunch and entertainment are provided to all who attend.
- ! Although finances continue to be in the black, council reminds members that we often hit a "summer slump" when people are vacationing and not in worship. Please remember to send your envelope when you are away or double up the next week! And many thanks to the congregation for their financial support.



***Thank you to all of the volunteers and sponsors that helped make our
2012 Vacation Bible School a huge success!***

Teddy Ancelitz	Krista Koropchak	Samantha Saffron
Jean Anderson	Sharyn Kratzer	Eileen Saffron
Lindsay Balitza	Betty Krupa	Rich Saffron
Gavin Bauer	Garrett Kunkel	Sammy Schnabel
Carol Becker	Maureen Kuntz	Sarah Schnabel
Ryan Bird	Pastor Kuntz	Bruce Schnabel
Cathy Bird	Allison Laubach	Fran Shehab
Barb Burns	Stephanie	Marissa Smith
Doug Daniel	Laudenbach	Toni Snyder
Leslie Daniel	Irene Leheup	Vicki Steiner
Janelle Demko	Jean Leibenguth	Heather Strohecker
Judy Dieter	Kimberly Lewis	Catelyn Strohl
Kelly DiNapoli	Kelly Lockard	Erica Szwast
Kristen Doncsecz	Karen Lockard	AJ Szwast
Janet Filchner	Hannah Martin	Tommy Thibou
Laura Flores	Justin Maurer	Mandy Thomas
Kathy Fogle	Nancy McCarty	Holly Tretiak
Alexa Follweiler	Jennifer McDonald	Jane Tretiak
Kasey Frey	David McDonald	Sarah Ventura
Jean Fritzing	Dan Medei	Jen Ventura
Jacqueline	Trudy Mertz	Becca Ventura
Frohnheiser	Georgia Mohrey	Brielle Weigold
Sarah Frohnheiser	Michelle Neetz	Donna Weigold
Tom Galloway	Donna Neetz	Loretta Weil
Deb Gardner	Sonya Newton	Tiffanie Wrenn
Shirley Green	Sarah Ninos	Mikayla Xander
Carol Groller	Trish Ninos	Nathaniel Xander
Fran Heffelfinger	Mikayla Ninos	Nancy Xander
Darlene Hoch	Cory Ninos	Lucas Yost
Rachel Holencik	Kay O'Donnell	Doris Zellers
Kristy Hove	Chad O'Donnell	Steph Ziegler
Temba Hove	Tammy Orendach	Stacey Ziegler
Sandy Hudson	Kristen Pittman	David Ziegler
Michelle Hughes	Wendy Pitts	Kathy Ziegler
Pastor Jami	Dolores Reenock	Shelbey Ziegler
Marci Karlovsky	Linda Rick	Marge Zimmermann
Lora Kates	Michael Rock	Karen Zimmerman
Amanda Kernan	Michelle Rock	Bonnie Zmyewski
Katelyn Kirchner	Betty Rock	Vicky Zmyewski
Cindy Kocher	David Roth	John Zmyewski

FINANCIAL REPORT - JUNE 30, 2012

	YEAR 2012		YEAR 2011	
REGULAR FUND				
Equity Beginning of Year		\$ 51,591.04		\$ 6,895.69
Income - June	\$ 19,265.39		\$ 17,725.01	
Income - Jan.-May	155,049.02		143,879.58	
Total Income	174,314.41		161,604.59	
Expenses - June	24,440.44		31,256.91	
Expenses - Jan.-May	132,657.25		123,962.35	
Total Expenses	157,097.69		155,219.26	
Net Income		17,216.72		6,385.33
SPECIAL APPEALS				
Income - June	1,843.00		40.00	
Income - Jan.-May	9,588.92		3,891.80	
Total Income	11,431.92		3,931.80	
Expenses - June	2,230.65		30.00	
Expenses - Jan.-May	9,186.27		3,876.80	
Total Expenses	11,416.92		3,906.80	
Net Special Appeals		15.00		25.00
Equity End of June		\$ 68,822.76		\$ 13,306.02
BUILDING FUND				
Equity Beginning of Year		\$ 129,840.65		\$ 100,974.91
Income - June	\$ 2,011.79		\$ 1,346.55	
Income - Jan.-May	16,596.88		23,120.30	
Total Income	18,608.67		24,466.85	
Expenses - June	(3,944.40)		834.50	
Expenses - Jan.-May	19,019.01		956.11	
Total Expenses	15,074.61		1,790.61	
Net Income		3,534.06		22,676.24
Equity End of June		\$ 133,374.71		\$ 123,651.15
MEMORIAL FUND				
Equity Beginning of Year		\$ 88,274.75		\$ 77,040.44
Equity End of June		\$ 77,610.00		\$ 87,532.73
SCHOLARSHIP LOAN/CAP IMP FUND				
Equity Beginning of Year		\$ 84,119.44		\$ 88,786.77
Equity End of June		\$ 95,992.69		\$ 97,714.12

SUMMARY:

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of June by \$5,175.05, and for the year 2012, income exceeded expenses by \$17,216.72, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$68,822.76. Last year the net income for the same period was \$6,385.33 with a balance of \$13,306.02.

Budget Comparison--Total Regular Fund Budget for 2012 is \$373,622.00. 26/52 of that figure is \$186,811.00. Our receipts in the Regular Fund for the six months were \$174,314.41. So, we are behind budget by \$12,496.59.

SYNOD NEWS

The Spirit of Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

August 2012

Highlights of the 2012 Synod Assembly

Over 600 people gathered at the Sovereign Arena in Reading for the 25th annual assembly of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod **June 15-16, 2012**. The assembly theme was *God's People Doing What Matters Together*, with an emphasis on sharing what God's people are doing in the synod's congregations.

Twenty-six forum sessions on



twenty different topics began the assembly. Subjects included technology, responding to bullying, and church consolidations and mergers. Participants commented that they wished they had time to attend more than two, since there were so many interesting topics.



Throughout the weekend, **Bishop Zeiser** encouraged communication and idea-sharing.

Several times he posed a question and invited attendees with electronic devices to reply



on the synod's blog.

Responses were projected on the assembly screens at

the end of sessions. (You can see the questions and answers and add your own responses on **Potluck Postings** at nepsynod.wordpress.com.)

An open question-and-answer session with the bishop on Saturday morning and panel responses to written questions in the afternoon made the assembly feel less formal and more interactive.

Reports from ministry teams and committees focused on successful projects and how they are being adapted and re-imagined in different settings.



"Birds of a Feather" Groups Gather

Groups of people with common interests or responsibilities flocked together on Friday evening to get acquainted and exchange ideas. From council

BIRDS of a FEATHER presidents to webmasters, they heard



what was working—or not—and collected contact information in what the Connection Building Ministry Team hopes will be the beginning of several new networks of information and support.

Seeds Sown in High-Energy Worship



"A sower went out to sow," Bishop Zeiser reminded us in his sermon on Mark 4:1-9, and our faithful God promises an abundant harvest, even from the diverse soils that make up the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod. The Friday evening service was enlivened by the worship leadership of singer-songwriter Rachel Kurtz, who



has been featured at several ELCA Youth Gatherings. Worship began

with representatives of various walks of life carrying in the altar, filling the font, and turning the

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

plenary hall into a worship setting as we celebrated



Christian vocation. A Latin jazz ensemble, a brass quintet and a children's choir drawn from local churches and afterschool programs brought excitement to the service.

Resolutions Concerning Immigration and Christian Education Adopted

Leaders primarily from the West Berks Mission District introduced a resolution calling on the synod to study the



issues surrounding immigration. The resolution was adopted after it had been

amended to encourage not only study but engagement with legislators concerning the plight of immigrants. A second resolution encouraged support of the Lutheran Association of Christian Educators as a way to enrich education efforts within the ELCA. The final resolution adopted by the assembly affirmed our commitment to the ELCA Malaria Campaign as we seek to raise \$15,000,000 by 2015 to eradicate malaria in Africa.



ELCA Malaria Campaign
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Jodi Slattery Brings Greetings from the ELCA

Ms. Jodi Slattery, Assistant to the Presiding Bishop for Governance, was the ELCA representative to the assembly.



She shared a video greeting from Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson and emphasized Bishop Hanson's observation that we are a church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

Elected at the Assembly



Synod Council: Pr. Lee Diefenderfer, Sr. Ramona Daily, James Parks

Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia: David Hinrichs

Voting Members of 2013

Churchwide Assembly: Clergy: Michael Bennethum, Fred Opalinski, Mary Gade, Cheryl Meinschein, Susan Ruggles, Maritza Torrez Dolich, Martin Milne, Lori Kochanski, Jeremiah Sassama; **Lay Male:** Charles Moon, Mark Hammond, Brandon Wood, Mark Stana, James Parks, Craig Babcock, Raymond Schneider, Brian Geiger, Charles Rush; **Lay Female:** Karen Matthias-Long, Kristen Opalinski, Diane McElwee, Lauren Blatt, Hannah



Wallace, Heather Moon, Melodee Leshner, Cathy Cooper, Alice Baer.



The Lutheran Youth Fellowship met in assembly at Muhlenberg College June 22-24.

During their time together, participants focused on **bullying**. As a result of the bullying workshop, one participant developed a Facebook page to help educate people about bullying.



Two workshops – **Games with a Purpose** and **Making Prayer Beads** – enabled participants to teach games and to teach others how to make prayer beads, which they did in workshops at the *Citizens with the Saints* Youth Gathering Rally the following day. Both workshops were led solely by LYF youth.



In addition to workshops, plenary sessions, group building activities, and social time, the assembly elected mission district representatives and new officers. The elected officers are Rachel Fackenthal, president (St. Peter, Bethlehem), Daniel Graf, vice president (Trinity, Reading), Meeghan Rossi, secretary (Christ, Penn Forest Twp.), and Destiny Stauffer, treasurer (Christ, Penn Forest Twp.).

Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA; 2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109; 610-266-5101; info@nepsynod.org; www.godslove.org

A LOOK AHEAD

August 2012	
<p><i>Penny Party for NAFB</i> Sunday, August 19, 2012 12:00 PM Hope Lutheran Church</p>	<p><i>Hope Yard Sale</i> Friday, August 31, 2012 – Saturday, September 1, 2012 Hope Lutheran Church</p>

September 2012	
<p><i>Dead Sea Scrolls</i> Saturday, September 8, 2012 Franklin Institute (Philadelphia)</p>	<p><i>discoverRING BELLS</i> Wednesday, September 12th, 26th 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Hope Lutheran Church</p>

October 2012	
<p><i>discoverRING BELLS</i> Wednesday, October 3rd, 10th, 24th, 31st 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Hope Lutheran Church</p>	<p><i>Fall Basket Social</i> Friday, October 12, 2012 4:00 PM Hope Lutheran Church</p>



NORTHAMPTON AREA FOOD BANK

IS SPONSORING A

PENNY PARTY



WHEN: **SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, 2012**

WHERE: **HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH, CHERRYVILLE**

Doors Open 12:00 PM

FUN starts at 1:00 PM

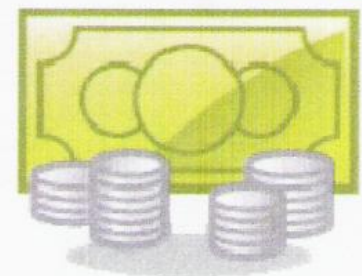
REFRESHMENTS – RAFFLE – BAKE SALE



BRING YOUR PENNIES!



AND SILVER



For directions and information call: **BARBARA BUDNIK @ 610-262-6156**

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL YARD SALE

Proceeds Will Benefit the Kuntz Hall Kitchen Renovation

Friday, August 31, 2012

8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

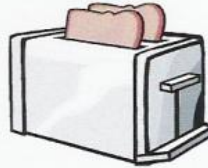
Saturday, September 1, 2012

8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Food, Drinks, Soup, Bake Sale

Food and drinks will be available to purchase for breakfast, lunch, and dinner

Items may be dropped off in the church narthex weekdays from 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM beginning Monday, July 16, 2012. For questions, please contact Ralph Fisher at (610) 392-4985



Acceptable Items Include:

Clothing, Toys, Games, Puzzles, Books, Movies, CDs, Video Games, Sporting Goods, Arts & Crafts, Holiday Decorations, Picture Frames, Small Furniture, Small Appliances, Kitchen Ware, Hand & Power Tools

Please NO Electronics or Large Furniture



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





discoverRING BELLS

What: A six week course to learn the basics of ringing handbells

When: Wednesdays Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 24, 31

Time: 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Where: Hope's sanctuary

Who: For anyone, any age, who would like to learn how to ring bells and read music

These sessions are designed to get you started in a fun, relaxing manner. There is no commitment to joining a bell choir. Come on out! Have fun!

Discover something new!

Contact Janet Filchner: 610-262-5215 or bells@hopecherryville.org