

HOPE HOME NEWS

Vol. XXXX No. 6 June, 2013



Published Monthly by:

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
4131 Lehigh Drive, P.O. Box 1030
Cherryville, PA 18035
610-767-7203
hopecherryville.org

Summer Worship Hours

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

Church Office Hours

Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri., (7:30 AM – 4:00 PM)
Tues. (9:00 AM – 2:00 PM)

HOPE LEADERSHIP

<u>PASTOR</u> The Rev. Jami Possinger pastor@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203 ext.#12 610-799-2449 (h)	<u>ASSISTANT PASTOR</u> The Rev. Paulette Obrecht assistant@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203 ext.#13 610-837-9256 (h)	<u>CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL</u>	
		Linda Mery <i>President</i>	Tim Lockard <i>Vice President</i>
		Al Rock <i>Secretary</i>	Tim Moore
		Amy Nichols	Tony Pagotto
		Tom Patterson	Bruce Schnabel
		Bob Small	Wayne Weidner
		Christal Wrenn	John P. Zmyewski
<u>VISITATION PASTOR</u> The Rev. Jerry Mraz	<u>PASTOR EMERITUS</u> The Rev. Clark W. Kuntz II		

<u>ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER</u> Mrs. Jane Tretiak office@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203 ext.#10	<u>COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST</u> Mr. Steven Shermetta communications@hopecherryville.org	<u>SEXTON</u> Mrs. Bonnie Zmyewski
<u>DIRECTOR OF MUSIC</u> Mr. David R. Ziegler organist@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203 ext.#11	<u>BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR</u> Mrs. Janet Filchner 610-767-7203 ext.#40	<u>FINANCIAL SECRETARY</u> Mrs. Deb Gardner
		<u>TREASURER</u> Mrs. Trudy Mertz

OUR MISSION AT HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our Mission as a congregation is... "To witness 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 doing so, seek to become more perfectly the Body of Christ in the world."

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding the following: new membership, baptisms, funerals, weddings, change of address, van requests, memorial sponsors, hospital admissions, room reservations for meetings or social events...

Call the Church Office at 610-767-7203

REGARDING	CALL	PHONE. NO
Basket Com	Linda Sidor	610-767-8372
Boy Scouts	John Demczynszyn	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	610-360-6034
Mutual Ministry	Charlie Kutzler	610-262-4588
Nursery School	Deb Gable	610-767-7523

REGARDING	CALL	PHONE. NO
Prayer Shawl	JoAnne Creyer	610-262-3204
Property	Earl Snyder	610-703-5166
SCS/Christian Ed	Lynn LaBarre	610-767-0880
Social Ministry	Marge Zimmerman	610-217-8324
Stewardship	Wayne Weidner	610-767-1512
VBS	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 Ziegler 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.....

From Pastor Jami Possinger



On April 28th the Worship Arts Team did something a little different during Sunday morning worship. To help people get the feel for a biblical text that was defining “insiders” and “outsiders” worship attendees were encouraged to sit in an area of the church that was not their “usual” pew. Although that was just part of the morning’s activity, one thing I heard time and time again was that people who sat somewhere different got a very different perspective of the church and worship that day. It was interesting to hear folks talk about their viewpoint from where they sat. Many said they were sitting next to people they never met before and they got to know someone new. Some said they noticed things they never saw before.

And that got me to thinking.....what is the viewpoint that our guests in worship experience? Almost every week we have people who are visitors. Do they feel welcomed when they enter the building? Do they feel that they are an “insider” or an “outsider” during worship? Do the people sitting around them make sure they know where the hymnals are and that they are on the right page of the hymnal as we worship? When we pass the peace do members make sure to include our guests? Do we welcome people at the communion table? At the end of the service do we talk to the strangers in our midst or let them walk out the door without ever being noticed? And if we do these things for guests do we also do them for members?????

Why do I ask these questions? Because they matter. Because people want to feel welcomed. Because people who are not “included” may never come back. Because members and guests alike want to be noticed and acknowledged with a little conversation. Because hospitality begins at home. Because if we don’t welcome each other how can we welcome someone we have never met? Because hospitality is the job of every member – not just the greeters, ushers and pastors.

Do you know the people who sit in the pews around you? If not, take the time to introduce yourself and make an effort to get to know them. If they are guests help us to create an environment that is welcoming, friendly and caring. And maybe you can ever try moving around in the sanctuary – sitting in a different pew once in a while – just to “test the waters” – just to meet some new people – just to see how we care for each other – just to get a different view point!

ASSISTANT PASTOR’S WORD.....

From Pastor Paulette Obrecht



After the recent Sunday School Mother’s Day program, I heard some good-humored comments about Father’s Day – and the “forgotten holiday”. So, this article’s written in honor of fathers – and all who serve as good male role models to our children:

When I was growing up, my dad seemed to have a saying for everything. By the time I was in my teens, I could mouth out the words as he repeated his oft-used phrases: “Yours is not to reason why, yours is but to do or die” or “I may not always be right, but I’m never wrong” But, the saying that used to get to me the most was when my dad would come home from work and tell me that he found out I was doing something I shouldn’t have been doing – and I would ask him, “Who told you that?” Maybe, you know what the answer always was: “A little birdie told me.” Boy, I really wanted to get my hands on that little birdie!

My dad also had a song for everything. Sometimes, when we would be explaining something to him – or especially if we were complaining – he would sing some old song from a sing-along program. If we were out bike-riding together, we’d hear “Daisy, Daisy, give me your answer do.” When he’d give me a hug and call me his “Susie,” which was his pet name for me, I’d get to hear, “If you knew Susie, like I knew Susie”

Continued on Page 4...

But, the funniest thing about his sayings is that I often found myself using those same lines on my own children. And, when we would do things as a family, I'd find some silly song to break up the monotony, "Rain drops keep falling on my head ..." – and my kids would tell me, "Mom, you're starting to sound just like Grandpa." And, I guess that wasn't such a bad thing.

I was lucky to have had a good relationship with my dad. A lot of people never had that. But, there is one Father, whom we can always rely on and can call on by name. Jesus told us it was so. We just need to call out, "Abba! Daddy!" as we take our prayers to the One who gave us the Spirit of life – and certainly God will listen and attend to what we need.

"When we cry 'Abba! Daddy!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God"
– Romans 8:15-16

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Two World Views – Doritos and Ruffles



Not too long ago there was a Ruffles potato chip ad showing Eskimos sitting in the midst of a vast, uninhabited, frozen wasteland. One fellow was having a wonderful time eating the contents of a bag of Ruffles, while the other was looking longingly in his direction. In reply to his request for a chip, the first man declares, "But if I gave one to you, I would have to give one to everybody." And as you look around there is no one else to be seen.

At about the same time there was a nacho cheese Doritos ad employing comedian Jay Leno as philosopher-spokesperson. After extolling the chips' great flavor and radical crunch, Leno gave all Doritos free rein saying, "Crunch all you want...we'll make more!" The Christian theology of abundance is more nachos than Ruffles. Share all you have. God will provide! We live in abundance. We just need to open our eyes and realize it – and then open our hands and share it!

PASTORAL ACTS

FUNERALS

Pastor Jami officiated at the following funeral.

*Dorothy E. Moll entered eternal life on April 10, 2013 at the age of 98 years. Funeral services were held at K. V. Knopp Funeral Home with interment at St. Mark's Cemetery.

**non-member*

Our sympathy to family and friends of Dorthy. May God continue to be their guide and strength.

SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS

Beginning Sunday, May 26th our summer worship hours will begin. The worship services will be at 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM, no Sunday Church School.

SECRETARY'S HOURS

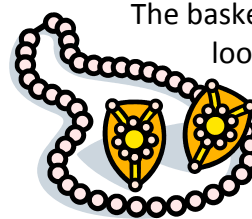
Jane Tretiak's hours will be changing in June. Beginning on Monday, June 3rd her hours for June will be Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM. She will continue to be off on Tuesdays. Her salary is based on 30 hours from September to May, and on 26 hours for June, July and August. July and August will be a summer schedule as she will use her extra hours worked as "comp" time, watch the weekly bulletins for updated office hours.

HOPE FEST 2013

Mark your calendars for Hope Fest 2013, to be held RAIN OR SHINE on Friday, June 21st and Saturday, June 22nd.

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 21st and June 22nd. 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.



HOPE FEST HELP IS NEEDED

June 21st and June 22nd. Volunteers are needed for 2- hour shifts. A set-up and clean-up crew is also needed. Sign-up sheets are posted in the narthex. 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 are needed for Hope Fest. 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.

GRADUATES



The following is a list of names we have been given so far for graduation.

If your name is not included, or the information is incorrect, please notify the church office as soon as possible. Future plans and

college degrees will be included in the next edition of the Hope Home News and also in the church bulletin on graduation recognition Sunday, which will be held on Sunday, June 9, 2013 at both worship services.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Erica Chandick – Northampton
Kaitlin Doncsecz - Northampton
Garrett Kunkel – Northampton
Kelly Lockard – Parkland
Mikayla Ninos – Northampton
Chelsea O'Donnell – Northampton
Jennifer Perry - Northampton
Samantha Schnabel – Catasauqua

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY GRADUATES

Briana Fritchman – University of Pittsburgh
Kailee Leibenguth – Cedar Crest College
Allsion Schell – George Washington University

Congratulations to each of our graduates! May God Bless all of your future endeavors!

MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE



The 19th annual blood drive in memory of Doug Gable, was held on Saturday, May 11. A huge thank you goes out to all who came and were able to donate. The donors were: Larry

Koplin, John Tropeano, Al Hornyak, Ron Gable, Toni Snyder, Don Bush, Fran Shehab, Tricia Weider, Bradley Bamford, April Schlitching, Kim Ardle, Bob Ardle, Sharon Eckhart, Don Stahley, Darlene Hock, Sherry Balliet, Mary Laubach, Gail Cichello, Kerry Follweiler, Erin Schell, Ed Winkelbauer, Jane Tretiak, Ed Tretiak, Kim Eckroth, Kim Milnes, Cindy Derr, Steph Simock, Steve Schannauer, Heather Weist, Craig Weist, Ashley Schell, Janet Pauker, Stacy Winkelbauer, Linda Derr, Laura Rycek. We never know when we, or one of our loved ones will be in need of blood or blood products. There is no substitute for blood. It is the gift of life. Thank you!

The Gable Family

SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

On Tuesday, May 28, at 11:00 AM, Hope's Social Ministry Committee will meet to renew and redefine the working of this group. The meeting will be led by Chairperson Marge Zimmerman, as we talk about the activities that have been regularly offered by this committee and how we might expand the things Hope Church is able to do to serve others in the name of Christ. We also plan to discuss what the definition of social ministry might include.

Anyone interested in learning more about Social Ministry and joining in the activities and discussion offered by this committee is invited to attend. Please check the Sunday bulletins and web-site calendar and updates for the date and time of the next meeting. This is a good place for new members of Hope Church to get involved. Come and learn more!

Upcoming Social Ministry Activities

- **Sunday, July 27 – 10:00 AM:** Worship Service at Gracedale
- **Saturday, August 17 – 11:30 AM:** Annual Senior Picnic (Kuntz Hall)

GOOD SAMARITAN DAYS

During the month of June, the people of Hope Church are being asked to become “Good Samaritans” by bringing in items used for assembling Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR).

Look for the “Tree of Hope” displayed in the Narthex – and take one of the “leaves” to select the item(s) that you will supply for the kits. Our goal is to collect enough items for 60 kits during the month of June, and then we will assemble and deliver them to a drop-off point for shipping around the world.

When LWR distributes Personal Care Kits, it’s often to people who have lost everything. In the wake of an earthquake, or having fled from violence as their homes were overtaken, they clasp a towel from a faraway place, with a bar of soap, a toothbrush...and washing up, they know that they have not been forsaken by the world. The very simple gesture of giving a Personal Care Kit can give someone the encouragement to start anew, starting with a bath. You can share God’s grace and love by providing that simple comfort.



Here are the items we will be collecting in the bins placed in the Narthex: 60 - light-weight bath-size towels (sizes between 20"×40" & 52"×27") dark color recommended; 120 bars of soap (bath-size – 4-5 oz.), any brand, in original wrapping; 60 adult-size toothbrushes in original packaging; 60 sturdy combs; and 60 metal nail clippers (attached file optional). You may also choose to make a monetary donation so additional supplies can be purchased by the church or to help LWR with the cost of shipping completed kits. Then, on July 14, all completed and assembled kits will be dedicated during worship, in conjunction with the reading of the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” – Luke 10:29

A NEW LOOK IN CHURCH

The property committee has been busy these past months. Hurricane Sandy did quite a bit of damage to our facility and that set the wheels in motion to “refurbish” some areas of the church. Besides having to replace the new roof on the parsonage and the entire church facility, the sanctuary sustained some damage to the ceiling. While insurance will cover the painting of the ceiling, the property committee made the decision to paint the walls, remove the paneling in the front of the church and install drywall to brighten up the area. Finally, the steeple on the church was in need of a fresh coat of paint so that will be repainted as well. The work will be completed sometime between the beginning of June and the second week of July. We do not anticipate any worship services being disrupted or relocated by these projects. So take a look around and notice the new things that are happening here at Hope!

GODSPEED STEVE

On Monday, May 6th Steve Shermetta submitted his resignation as Communications Specialist for Hope Lutheran Church. As a recent college graduate, Steve had been seeking full-time employment and will be leaving us to work for Mass Mutual Insurance Company. Steve joined the staff in October of 2011 and has been a wonderful asset – transforming the newsletter, moving us to e-format newsletters via Constant Contact, maintaining our publicity inside and outside the congregation and staffing the office three days a week. Steve was always professional, conscientious and a lot of fun to work with.

Steve’s official last day with us was Thursday, May 16th – but he is willing to work through a transition process with us – even continuing to complete the newsletter for a month or two on nights and weekends. If you see Steve, I hope you join me in offering your congratulations to Steve on his new job and God’s speed as he enters a new phase of his life.

HOPE’S YARD SALE

As you are spring cleaning, don’t forget about Hope’s yard sale this summer. More details to follow.

SENIOR BIRTHDAY PARTY

On Saturday, August 17th, 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. Watch for more information and a sign-up sheet soon!

GRACEDALE VISIT

Sunday, July 28th a group from Hope will go to Gracedale to attend their worship service. Volunteers are needed to help get the residents to the service. We will leave from Hope at 9:00 AM to travel to Gracedale for their 10:00 AM worship. If you have questions, please call Margie Zimmermann at 610-767-8901.

TRIP TO NOAH

WELCA is going to see Noah and tour the Biblical Tabernacle on Tuesday, September 24, 2013 in Lancaster, PA. Tickets are still available. The cost is \$55.00 per person. If interested, please see the sign-up sheet located on the bulletin board in the narthex. Checks are payable to Hope Lutheran Church with WELCA trip in the memo and given to Sharyn Kratzer.

CLOTHING COLLECTION



It's time to clean out those closets of unwanted out-grown clothing. Our Youth Group will be collecting clothing and other household items starting Sunday, June 2nd for one week. The truck will pick up the items on the morning of June 8th at 9:00 AM. Place your items in garbage bags and drop off them off during that week in the narthex. Items collected include usable and wearable clothing for all seasons and all sizes, men's, women's, children, infant and shoes. Accessory items include pocketbooks, belts, backpacks, hats, scarves, baby accessories, briefcases, gloves, ties, and handbags. Household items include blankets, tablecloths, bed sheets, drapery, curtains, pillows, towels, small rugs, quilts, and comforters. Proceeds of the drive will benefit the 2015 Detroit Youth Gathering.

VACTION BIBLE SCHOOL 2013

For a Rip Roaring, Rootin' Tootin' Time... Join us for our 2013 Roundup at VBS July 8th through July 12th 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon.



VBS is offered for children ages 3 (potty trained) to children completing 6th grade in June. Registrations are now open at vbs.hopecherryville.org

THANK YOU NOTES

Hope Lutheran Church received thank you notes from the following individuals/families in the month of April: Karline Hontz, Donna Bosner, Patricia Schimaneck, and Georgia Mohrey. Thank you notes are posted on the bulletin board.

KNOEBELS TRIP



It's time to look ahead to summer! Saturday August 3, 2013 we have a pavilion reserved for you at Knoebels Amusement Park and Picnic Grove in Elysburg, PA. We have the pavilion from 10:00 AM – 10:00 PM. Lunch will be served at 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.

Knoebels 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 coal mine museum and much more. Knoebels has something for every one of all ages. There are over 50 rides, from kiddie rides up to 2 world-class wooden roller coasters! The sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board 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 John Zmyewski at 610-767-7260, or the church office at 610-767-7203 with questions.

Your Evangelism Committee

LEHIGH TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Open house will be held on June 9th and June 23rd, at the Lehigh Township Historical Centre in Pennsville, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Spend a few hours touring the centre. Admission is free. For more information call Ken at 610-767-5989.

INDIANLAND GARDEN CLUB

Join members of the Indianland Garden Club at Hope Lutheran Church on Tuesday, June 11th at 7:00 PM for a program entitled "Flowering Trees - The Good, the Bad, and the Scabby," presented by Sue Drabic, Penn State Master Gardener. Doors open at 6:00 PM. For more information call 610-767-8420.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS-MAY 2013

- ✚ Council accepted with regret Steven Shermetta's resignation as Communication Specialist for Hope Lutheran and charged the Mutual Ministry Committee to begin the process of hiring a new person for this position.
- ✚ The Pictorial Directory is being printed. Council wishes to thank the entire committee (Susan Stephens, Nancy Hoffman, Betty Rock, Jack and Karen Wolfe, Barbara Duraso, Linda Mery, Judy Deiter, Michelle Costanzo, Karen Lockard, Nancy Biechy) for their work on this most important project.
- ✚ Sunday School held a Mother's/Father's Day program on May 12th.
- ✚ The Evangelism committee of Hope hosted a Prayer Service in Kuntz Hall for National Day of Prayer.
- ✚ Hope Lutheran Church received a \$1500.00 grant from the Hontz Charitable Trust which will be designated for the 2014 musical. Many thanks to Martha Hontz for this grant.
- ✚ Hope also received a \$5000 bequest from the Donald Benninger Estate and are grateful for Donald's thoughtfulness and generosity for including Hope in his will.
- ✚ Volunteers from Hope Lutheran were recognized with a Certificate of Appreciation from Gracedale.
- ✚ The disaster response group (Lee Blose, Doris and Pete Zellers and Pastor Paulette) will be heading to northern New Jersey on Sunday, May

19th through Friday, May 24th to work on rebuilding efforts from Hurricane Sandy. Offerings given by the congregation in a special appeal will be used to fund this trip.

- ✚ Council approved the proposals from Eastern Time for a limited access entry system and a fire alarm system both of which will be installed in the near future. These systems will provide security and safety for members and the community who use our facility.
- ✚ Council approved the bid from Korpics Construction to paint the back wall and heaters in the sanctuary and the church steeple which will complete the renovation of the sanctuary and the repairs due to Hurricane Sandy. The sanctuary will be painted sometime after June 1st and before July 8th.
- ✚ The date for Consecration Sunday 2013 has been set for October 20th. Look for more information in future publications.
- ✚ Synod delegates for the 2013 Synod Assembly in Wilkes-Barre are Bruce Schnabel and Michelle Costanzo.

SYNOD NEWS

If you would like to read the SYNOD News for the month of May, please visit http://www.godslove.org/publications/synod_news.htm and select *June 2013*.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE – JUNE 2013

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sunday, June 2, 2013</u> 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:30 AM Service of the Word</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sunday, June 9, 2013</u> <i>Graduate Recognition (Both Services)</i> 8:00 AM Service of the Word 9:30 AM Holy Communion</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sunday, June 16, 2013</u> 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:30 AM Service of the Word</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sunday, June 23, 2013</u> 8:00 AM Service of the Word 9:30 AM Holy Communion</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sunday, June 30, 2013</u> 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:30 AM Holy Communion</p>

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - APRIL 30, 2013

	Regular	Building	Memorial	Scholarship Loan	Memorial Garden
Balance Beginning of Year	\$ 88,690.61	\$ 116,556.90	\$ 77,311.49	\$ 95,625.77	\$ 29,099.49
Income - April	25,597.43	3,656.44	5,324.37	5,511.71	5.82
Income - Jan.-Mar.	100,560.27	77,366.91	1,351.89	2,440.45	112.09
Total Income	126,157.70	81,023.35	6,676.26	7,952.16	117.91
Expenses - April	34,387.78	106,312.40	765.98	-	-
Expenses - Jan.-Mar.	100,082.22	26,009.00	2,061.50	1,300.00	15,000.00
Total Expenses	134,470.00	132,321.40	2,827.48	1,300.00	15,000.00
Net Income	(8,312.30)	(51,298.05)	3,848.78	6,652.16	(14,882.09)
Net Special Appeals	797.28				
Balance End of April	\$ 81,175.59	\$ 65,258.85	\$ 81,160.27	\$ 102,277.93	\$ 14,217.40

SUMMARY:

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of April by \$8,790.35, and for the year 2013, expenses exceeded income by \$8,312.30, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$81,175.59. Last year the net income for the same period was \$26,509.25 with a balance of \$78,100.29.

Budget Comparison--Total Regular Fund Budget for 2013 is \$413,068.00. 17/52 of that figure is \$135,041.46. Our receipts in the Regular Fund for the four months were \$126,157.70. So, we are behind in income by \$8,883.76.

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

All committees, groups and persons submitting information for the church newsletter should follow the schedule listed below. These dates are subject to change. Your articles may be edited so we do not exceed the newsletter page limitations. Please email your articles to Steve Shermetta (communications@hopecherryville.org) by **12:00 PM** on the deadline date. Thank you.

Edition

Article Deadline

Collation Date

July

Monday, June 24

Thursday, June 27

August

Monday, July 22

Thursday, July 25

September

Monday, August 26

Thursday, August 29



THANK YOU NOTES

To The Funeral Luncheon Committee,

We wanted to thank you again for the nice meal you put out for us and how nicely the tables were decorated. The staff was also so friendly and helpful to everyone. So in appreciation we would like to donate \$100.00 to Kuntz Hall in memory of our dad, Otto Hontz.

Karline Hontz, Donna Bosner, and Patricia Schimaneck

I would like to thank Pastor Paulette for brining me communion. Thank you for the meals that were brought to me. They were delicious. Thank you to my sisters and brothers for their prayers. Thank you for the birthday and get well cards I received, they were greatly appreciated.

Georgia Mohrey

BEAR CREEK CAMP

You can register now for summer camp. Remember you qualify for discounts if you have Pastor Jami sign your registration form and an additional discount for a Bear Creek Ambassador (Kim Roth) attending the annual meeting. Please contact Kim Roth (610-820-0587) with any questions, for a registration form or for more information. You can register online at www.bearcreekcamp.org

LEAVE A LEGACY

Have you given much thought about the Legacy you would like to leave after you join the Church Triumphant? Even with uncertainty about the future, you can and should make plans about your estate especially if you want charitable gifts to be part of your estate plan.

There are many ways to make a gift that does not jeopardize your financial wellbeing. For instance, the most used gifting method is a will. Eighty percent of the gifts received by congregations come from estates via a will. However, 60% of the people who die each year die without a will. Furthermore, less than 10% of the Lutherans who die each year remember their congregation in their will. The beauty of a will is that it does not require that you give up any of your assets while you are alive. The cost to write a will is minimal and a will is changeable if your charitable interests change. The place to start is by having a conversation with your pastor, an ELCA Charitable Gift Planner, and of course your attorney.

Another easy way to make an estate gift, which does not affect your current financial situation, is

changing the beneficiary statement on an insurance policy, IRA, 401k, 403b, other retirement accounts and/or investment accounts. Simply call the plan administrator or account manager and ask for a change of beneficiary form. Generally, there is no cost to make this change. IRA, 401k, and 403b accounts create an ordinary tax liability for the inheritor of these accounts. So, using them to make charitable gifts can save on taxes for those who will benefit from your estate. For more details about how you can structure your estate to save your beneficiaries taxes, contact and ELCA Charitable Gift Planner for the details.

There are other ways to arrange your estate to make charitable gifts including gifts that may increase your income. It all depends on your financial situation, the assets you have, and the ministries you want to support. A good place to start is to have a conversation with an ELCA Charitable Gift Planner. ELCA Charitable Gift Planners are not advisors nor do they have anything to sell. However, they can provide you with information and the appropriate questions to ask your legal and financial advisor to help you support the ministry of your congregation or other ministries of the church.

For more information about using wills for charitable giving or other ways to make gifts to your congregation and other ELCA ministries, please call Pr. Greg Kramer at the Lutheran Planned Giving Office 570-374-2044 or contact the ELCA Foundation