

# HOPE HOME NEWS

Vol. XLI N<sup>o</sup>. 3 March 2014



***Published Monthly by:***

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
4131 Lehigh Drive, P.O. Box 1030  
Cherryville, PA 18035  
610-767-7203  
[hopecherryville.org](http://hopecherryville.org)

***Worship Hours***

Sunday Worship at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

***Church Office Hours***

Mon., Wed., Thurs. and Fri.: 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM  
Tues.: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - JANUARY 31, 2014					
	Regular	Building	Memorial	Scholarship Loan	Memorial Garden
<b>Balance Beginning of Year</b>	\$ 76,661.59	\$ 83,981.26	\$ 90,833.11	\$ 103,109.55	\$ (13,046.92)
Income - January	23,042.41	3,594.17	3,525.82	5,299.82	-
Expenses - January	33,150.75	99.00	-	3,600.00	-
Net Income	(10,108.34)	3,495.17	3,525.82	1,699.82	-
Net Special Appeals	100.00				
<b>Balance End of January</b>	<b>\$ 66,653.25</b>	<b>\$ 87,476.43</b>	<b>\$ 94,358.93</b>	<b>\$ 104,809.37</b>	<b>\$ (13,046.92)</b>
<b>SUMMARY:</b>					
Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of January by \$10,108.34, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$66,653.25.					
Last year the net income for the same period was \$(6,639.99) with a balance of \$82,050.62.					
Budget Comparison--Total Regular Fund Budget for 2014 is \$416,769.00. 4/52 of that figure is \$32,059.15. Our receipts in the Regular Fund for one month were \$23,042.41. So, we were behind in income by \$9,016.74.					

*\*\* There is a copy of the income statement posted in the narthex.*

<b>NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE</b>		
All committees, groups and persons submitting information for the church newsletter should follow the schedule listed below. Your articles may be edited so we do not exceed the Post Office guidelines. Please email your articles to Nina Weiss ( <a href="mailto:communications@hopecherryville.org">communications@hopecherryville.org</a> ) by <b>12:00 PM</b> on the deadline date. Thank you.		
<b><u>Edition</u></b>	<b><u>Article Deadline</u></b>	<b><u>Collation Date</u></b>
April	Monday, March 17	Thursday, March 20
May	Monday, April 21	Thursday, April 24
June	Monday, May 19	Thursday, May 22

	<p><b>Daylight Savings Time!</b></p> <p>Don't forget to <b><u>Spring Ahead</u></b> <b>One Hour</b> On Sunday March 9<sup>th</sup></p>
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## GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR...

*From Pastor Jami Possinger*



**Lent** – a simple, four letter word. The season of “lent,” however, is packed with an incredible story, a sacred journey and the opportunity for spiritual renewal. As I have been thinking about Lent for our congregation this year, I have been reflecting on mid-week worship, liturgical arts, preaching and teaching. And the word “lent” just kept coming back to me. I continued to ask myself two questions: How do we help our members understand just how important this season is? And how do we encourage them to really get into the Lenten season? Those questions led me to an acrostic for the word LENT. So let me share it with

you....

**Let God be God.** So often we try to do it all and be everything to all people. Lent is a season when we are reminded that God is God and we are not! Letting God be God frees us to be human – frees us to make mistakes and be forgiven – frees us to pray and let God do the worrying – frees us to place ourselves into the loving arms of a God who wants to love us!

**Experience the season.** We spend our days rushing about and before we know it a week has gone by and we can't even remember what we did, who we saw or where we went. SLOW DOWN in this season of Lent – this season of reflection and rest. Take time to revive your soul and your life. Make room for God - by attending mid-week and Sunday services, reading pieces of scripture and losing yourself in prayer. You never know – they may even become experiences worth continuing!

**Never forget the story.** During Lent we focus on the life and ministry of Jesus leading up to his last week on earth. It's an incredible story of loyalty and betrayal, faith and faithlessness, fear and joy, life and death, defeat and victory. But most of all it is the story of our being saved by a God who will go to any length to be in relationship with YOU and me. What are you doing this Lent to remember the story in your life?

**Turn away from the things that are NOT life-giving.** Because Lent is a time to renew our relationship with God, the church talks about repentance. Repent comes from a Greek word, μετάνοια – metanoia, which literally means to make a 180 degree turn. What does that look like? Imagine you are tempted to shoplift something even though you know it's wrong. As you are moving toward the item you, literally, turn the other way and keep walking away. Metanoia – repentance – means turning away from things that draw you from God and God's will for your life and turning you toward God, and how God would have you live and be! Are there people or situations or decisions in your life that you need to turn *from* so that you can turn *toward* God?

That's my acrostic. I hope and pray that it helps to light your path as you enter the Lenten season.

Blessings,  
Pastor Jami

## ASSISTANT PASTOR'S WORD...

*From Pastor Paulette Obrecht*



So – I'm sitting here at my desk waiting for yet another snow storm. When are we going to see some signs of Spring? Give us some signs, God!

Wait a minute – isn't that what the people of Israel called out to God whenever they felt distant from God and their faith wavered? “Give us a sign,” they cried. When Abram was promised an heir and a land, he asked God, “How will I know your promise is sure?” So, God appeared to Abram in a dream and offered the sign of a covenant.

Some of my favorite readings about God's faithfulness are found in the readings for the Vigil of Easter – the church season between Good Friday and Easter dawn. These are readings full of signs from God about God's faithful presence with us. In the story of the Flood, for instance, God set a sign in the sky – a rainbow – to seal the covenant of God's faithfulness with all living creatures of the earth. I often see rainbows in the sky – even in winter.

When reading the story of the Creation in Genesis 1, we can feel the rhythm of a wind from God, God's Spirit, breathing life into the universe. "And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. ... And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. ..." The rhythm of God. A sign of God's presence with us. I like to look out the window – even in the winter – to watch the wind of God breathing new life into the world. Sometimes, it's a strong wind reminding us that we occasionally need to be pushed and cajoled to where God wants us to go. Sometimes, it's gentle and rhythmic, telling us to slow down and take time to breathe – take time to listen to the silent assurance of God's presence with us.

During the season of Lent, as we journey with Jesus to Jerusalem - and the cross – take time to look for the signs of God's presence with you in the simple things – in the waters of the melting snow, reminding of us the baptismal water that began our relationship with God – in the motion of the air around us, reminding us of the God's Holy Spirit present with us – in the lengthening of daylight and the changes in the seasons, reminding us of the rhythms of life. All of these are strong reassurances of God's constancy – of God's faithfulness – and of God's never-ending love.

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."* – John 3:16

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#### **COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS – JANUARY 2014**

- ⤴ Council members spent time talking about congregational communication and how they can help to make it better. Some considerations are being discussed and reviewed.
- ⤴ The Youth Group Valentine Dinner is scheduled for February 15<sup>th</sup>. Many tickets have already been sold.
- ⤴ The treasurer's report for January reflected that the snowy weather has had a negative impact on finances. Council encourages members to remember to continue to contribute their offerings even when they cannot make it to church.
- ⤴ The security system is ready to "go live." The first groups to utilize it will be the Nursery School and the Senior Center. Check the bulletin and future newsletters for the date when members will need to "buzz in" during the day.
- ⤴ The Disaster Response Team's information session was well-attended and well-received. They have a fund-raising breakfast scheduled for Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.
- ⤴ Worship and Music committee reported that they discussed the concern from the annual meeting regarding Veterans' Day recognition. In the future veterans will be recognized during the announcements the Sundays closest to Memorial Day and Veterans' Day and a patriotic hymn will be sung at that time as well.
- ⤴ Worship and Music committee also reported that there will be an additional worship opportunity during Holy Week this year. **A Stations of the Cross service will be held on Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.** More information will follow in the bulletins and newsletter.
- ⤴ Property committee informed the council that a circulator pump for the boiler had to be replaced.

#### **PASTORAL ACTS**

##### ***FUNERALS***

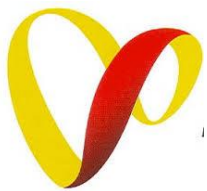
Pastor Jami officiated at the following funeral:

**Anna Schaller** entered eternal life on February 10, 2014 at the age of 83 years. Funeral services were held at Schisler Funeral Home.

***Our sympathy to family and friends of Anna; may God continue to be their guide and strength.***



### **2013 THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS**



Need to be designated by March 31, 2014. This can be done online at [Thrivent.com](http://Thrivent.com) or by calling 1-800-847-4836. Your grant dollars will expire so please distribute these charitable grant dollars. Thank you to all of Hope's members who designate Hope Church as their recipient of their Choice dollars. *Even if you have designated Hope Church in the past, you must resubmit your designation each year.*

### **IS THERE CHURCH?**

During this winter season, if you are not sure if the church office and the building will be open during office hours or for evening events, please check WFMZ (Channel 69 news) or the church website ([www.hopecherryville.org](http://www.hopecherryville.org)).

### **SYNOD NEWS**

Read about the 2013 synod assembly, and check out the article about a winter carnival one congregation "gives" to its community. The issue also highlights upcoming events. [http://www.godslove.org/publications/synod\\_news.htm](http://www.godslove.org/publications/synod_news.htm) and select *March 2014*.



### **Stewardship New Year's Resolutions: New Ways of Thinking By Molly Brown**



I must admit that I am never one to make New Year's resolutions. So instead of thinking about New Year's resolutions for our congregations and ourselves around stewardship, let's look at new ways of thinking about stewardship this year. Here are four new ways of thinking about stewardship for ourselves and our congregations:

The first new thinking is this: **To know and understand that God cares about our entire life and this includes our financial spending, goals and worries.** God cares about our financial well-being. God cares about our financial worries as much as we do. God cares how we spend our money on daily needs and how we give of our money to show our love to God and others. It's easy to forget that God loves and cares about our entire lives, including how we are doing with our finances.

The second new way of thinking: **Stewardship is a way of life, not a yearly campaign for the church to ask for money.** I understand and am in a congregation that survives on pledges and a yearly budget but somehow I think that our congregations get the impression that this is what we care about most, meeting the budget at the end of the year and/or having everyone pledge. While as a pastor, I do care about these things, I care more about people being good stewards. God cares more about our entire lives than our church budgets as well!

The third new way of thinking: **Stewardship is NOT just about money but it does include money.** God cares about what we do with our money but also what we do with our time and talents! God cares about what we do at our jobs, how we give of our time to serve others, and how we take care of our families and ourselves by eating well, spending time together, and resting.

The fourth new way of thinking: To live everyday with the question: **How does what I do with my time, talent, and treasure affect my relationship with God?** Stewardship is first and foremost about a relationship; our relationship with God. How does our stewardship or management of God's stuff affect our relationship with God? Does it? Have you ever stopped to think about the question? When we start to think about our relationship with our stuff as our relationship with God, we start to care for things differently, we start to become good stewards of all that God has given us: time, talent, and treasure.

## SPRING WOMEN'S RETREAT

Mark your calendars now for the first annual Women's Retreat... because you won't want to miss it! **Chocolate Boutique** will be a "sweet retreat" for everyone who attends! This retreat is all about chocolate – well – it's about chocolate **and** our relationship with God and with one another. Using chocolate as a metaphor for God's grace, we will taste God's goodness in abundance through some lively Bible study, unforgettable worship and fun activities. Join Pastor Jami on **April 25 - 26, 2014** at St. Francis Center for Renewal for this unique opportunity to meet other women, share our faith and have a lot of fun and fellowship! The retreat will begin Friday evening and end by dinner on Saturday. Look for more details in upcoming bulletins and newsletters regarding registration, cost and what you need to bring. Save the date!

## WELCA

**Tuesday, March 18:** WELCA Meeting at 9:00 AM

## SECOND WELCA GROUP FORMING AT HOPE

Not quite... As promised, this women's group will be defined by those who partake. Already it has evolved into "Women of Faith" and will meet again on Monday, March 17, at 7:00 PM in Hansen Hall. Come and see what it's all about.

## SOUP GROUP



The Soup Group will meet on Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM (snow date March 12). Drivers are needed to help deliver soup that day to homebound persons. Homebound members should expect delivery that same day and will be called before soup is delivered. For further information, contact LeAnn Chandler at [lachandler7759@hotmail.com](mailto:lachandler7759@hotmail.com) or 610-440-0341 if willing to help deliver.

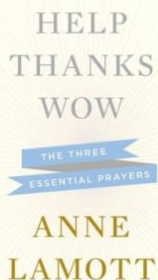
## STORY WEAVERS - DISCUSSION GROUP

The Story Weavers group will meet on Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM (snow date March 25<sup>th</sup>). For more information, please contact LeAnn Chandler at [lachandler7759@hotmail.com](mailto:lachandler7759@hotmail.com) or 610-440-0341.

## LENTEN BOOK STUDY:

### HELP, THANKS, WOW! BY ANNE LAMOTT

If you've ever read anything by Anne Lamott, you'll know that she has a gift for writing about her faith questions in a funny, yet insightful way. This year, as a way to add Lenten discipline to your weekly routine, we will be offering a "Dinner Table Discussion" book study series based on Anne Lamott's book *"Help, Thanks, Wow! – the three Essentials of Prayer."*



The group will meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:00-7:15 PM in Hanson Hall, from March 11 through April 15. It will begin with a simple meal – soup, salad, and bread (no dessert – it's Lent). Then, Pastor Paulette will lead a discussion of this easy to read, humorous book that can help us get through the day by learning to ask for assistance, noticing the good that we witness daily, and feeling awe at the world in front of us – all because of God in our lives. Everybody will be asked at the first session if they are willing/able to contribute for the series - and everybody will be asked to help with cleanup as we leave refreshed and ready to face the week that lies ahead. Try something new and different this Lenten season. Please sign up at the Narthex bulletin board so we know how much food to prepare (indeed you are welcome even if you forgot to sign up).

We invite you to study with us for one or all of these sessions during Lent, a time of penitential reflection and renewal of our baptismal relationship with God and God's Son given for us.

## Reflections on Dealing with Grief & Loss

by Pastor Paulette Obrecht

After the loss of a loved one, we often sit by ourselves and remember the events of how it all happened. We might find ourselves telling and retelling the story to family and friends around us. At first, everyone wants to know the details and, through the tears and the sadness, you tell them. However, as time passes, others might not be so interested in hearing the story again. Yet, telling the story is part of the healing process after any traumatic event. It is the way we try to make sense of everything that has happened. It helps the mind catch up to the pain that lingers within your heart. Telling the story helps to dispel the pain.

According to David Kessler, who partnered with Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross to write her last book, grief must be witnessed to be healed. He writes, "Grief shared is grief abated." Thus, support and bereavement groups are important, not only because they allow you to be with others who have experienced loss, but because they also provide us with an opportunity for talking about the devastating events that shattered your world. It really does help to take the inner thought of your mind and speak them out loud as a way to put things in order once again.

**So, here at Hope Church we will begin offering a grief support group so people have the opportunity to help one another through the grieving process. The group will begin meeting on Wednesday, April 23, beginning at 7 PM. We will plan on meeting for 12 weeks and use materials from the *Grief Sharing* series. It will be open to people from Hope Church and from the community at large. A sign-up sheet will be available on the bulletin board in the Narthex.** We hope you will consider joining us – and encouraging family members or friends to take advantage of this opportunity. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or desire more information.

Many of our stories contain an enormous amount of pain, sometimes too much for one person to handle by themselves. When we share our stories, we disperse the pain little by little, and it helps us to figure things out. So, we ask, "What is it that you want to know? How can we help you see things differently? What would your loved one want to tell you now?" Here is your invitation to explore your feelings of grief at a new level.

*To fashion an inner story of our pain carries us into the heart of it, which is where rebirth inevitably occurs.* – Sue Monk Kidd, as quoted in *Healing after Loss: Daily Meditations for Working through Grief*.

### RECENT BLOOD DONORS

The following member of Hope Lutheran Church donated blood in January – way to go! Jeffrey Barber, Peter Chandick, Mary Hagley, William Lamparter, Brenda Mack, Stanley Royer, Sharon Schell, Arthur Stewart. We have 8 pints YTD on **our goal of 32.** Miller Keystone is currently in need of all blood types. If you would like to give the gift of life, please call the Miller Blood Center at 610-691-5850.



### MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE

On Saturday, May 31, 2014 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 20<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 at 610-760-9891. The blood donated that day will be credited to Hope Lutheran Church blood bank, which covers all members.



### HOPE DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM EVENTS

The February meeting of the team was held on February 19<sup>th</sup>. A speaker from the local Habitat for Humanity described the nature of their activities and opportunities for Hope's team to become involved with local repair and recovery building projects. The team also discussed Ziegel Church's arrangements for a mission trip to Camden, NY, in June and ways that Hope congregation might be included in that project. Contact Doris Zellers (610-703-8550) for more information about the Disaster Response Team projects.

### CARD SHOWER

Marian Burkhardt, a member of Hope Church will turn 100 years young on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Please remember her with a birthday card and well wishes. Her address is Bellingham Retirement Living, 1615 East Boot Road, Brookside A304, West Chester, PA 19380.

### CATECHETICAL CLASSES SCHEDULE

Please let Michelle Hughes or the Sunday School teachers know if there are any problems or concerns. Attendance needs to be monitored by each student/parent. Missed assignments must be made up at the initiative of the student. *Lent/Easter with extra worship is a good time to get to church to worship!*

#### **LEVEL I**

**Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** - Mini-Retreat on the Lord's Prayer from 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

#### **LEVEL II**

**Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** - Mini-Retreat on the Lord's Prayer from 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM.

✓ Weekend Retreat is April 11-13 as announced last September. This is a mandatory retreat in preparation for confirmation on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

***Remember, these are part of your scheduled and required events for your catechetical year.***

***Mentors and students if you have any conflicts with any of the upcoming mentor events, please call Trish Ninos at 610-360-6034 ASAP.***

### SPONSORS NEEDED

- ✓ **FLOWER CHART** – Two sponsors needed each week at a cost of \$15.00 per sponsor (a few left).
- ✓ **BULLETIN CHART** – Three needed each week at a cost of \$6.00 per sponsor.
- ✓ **PRESS CHART** – One sponsor needed each week at a cost of \$6.00 per sponsor.

Payment is due to the church office 2 weeks before any of the above sponsorships. Thank you.

### IRON PIGS

Hope Church is going to see the Iron Pigs. The game is on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. Game starts at 1:35PM, gates open at 12 Noon. Game ticket and all you can eat buffet is \$40.00 per person. Sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the narthex. Money is due by Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.



### BALTIMORE ORIOLES & INNER HARBOR TRIP

Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. Travel and Game = \$75.00; Inner Harbor (transportation) only = \$40.00. Deadline to sign up and to pay is Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex.



## HOPE CHURCH AND ELCA WORLD HUNGER



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you, Hope Church congregation for your SUPER generous contributions to ELCA World Hunger on "SOUPER Bowl" Sunday. Our "noisy offerings" during two worship services on February 6 – and additional deposits by those who were unable to be with us that Sunday – raised just over \$1,100 to contribute to help in the fight against hunger. Thanks, too, to the very enthusiastic 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School students who helped with the offerings. *When we all work together, there is so much we can accomplish.*

Look for our next "hunger project" during Lent – as we observe the Lenten disciplines of meditation, fasting, and almsgiving by using "A 40-day Lenten Calendar – for ELCA World Hunger." The calendar is included with the special Lenten mailing sent to all Hope families. Just hang the calendar on your refrigerator, find a special coin container for you offerings, read the "task" for the day and when it applies to you, make your Lenten offering. The tasks on the calendar are meant to help you reflect on where you might see God active in the world around you – and give you an opportunity for a fun way to "chip in" toward a very worthy cause. If you don't have time to search for a special coin container, look on the table in the narthex where some have been provided for you. Then on Easter Sunday, empty your containers in the special "collection container" located in the Narthex. Let your "change" help change the world.

## EASTER FLOWER SALE

Orders will be taken after worship services in the narthex beginning in March. Deadline for orders is April 6<sup>th</sup>. Crocus, iris, tulips, lilies, azaleas and hyacinth; prices from \$4 to \$10.25. Questions? Contact Deb Gardner 610-767-8421.



## SOCIAL MINISTRY

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 4, at 11:00 AM. Pastor Paulette will give an update about the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter program for the homeless. Upcoming activities include: delivery of "Easter baskets" to Gracedale residents (which will be filled with toiletry items this year), a luncheon after the morning Maundy Thursday worship service for those who attended worship, and a talent night at Gracedale on Monday, May 5.

## LEHIGH TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mark your calendar for two upcoming events sponsored by the LT Historical Society:

- ✓ **April 6** - Annual Spring Basket Social to be held at the LT Volunteer Fire Company in Cherryville, 1 to 4 PM. The kitchen will be open. Tickets at the door.
- ✓ **May 4** - Grand Opening! Lehigh Township Historical Centre Addition, Pennsville, 1 to 4 PM, Light refreshments, door prizes, souvenirs.

For More Information, call 610-767-5989.

## TRIVIA – SPRING BASKET SOCIALS

Did you know...

- The very first Spring Social was held in 1999, four years after the Fall Social began. Loyal followers of the Fall Socials were enjoying them so much that many came to The Basket Committee asking if we would consider hosting TWO Socials yearly. Thus, The Committee decided to give it a try and to use the Spring Socials as Hope's way of reaching out to the Community. Profit at the Spring Socials is divided between The Northampton Area Food Bank and Hope Church's Good Samaritan Fund.
- In the past 15 years, **\$39,192.25** has been donated to The Northampton Area Food Bank, from basket profits, cake sales, and community funds from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.
- Donations to Hope's Good Samaritan Fund in the past 15 years have totaled profits of \$33,161.50.

- On April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014, we celebrate our 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Basket Social!

Special thanks to everyone for their continued support of both Socials!

- Hope Lutheran Basket Committee

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE – MARCH 2014**

<p><b><u>Sunday, March 2, 2014</u></b>        8:00 AM Holy Communion        9:15 AM Sunday School        10:30 AM Service of the Word</p>
<p><b><u>Wednesday, March 5, 2014</u></b>        11:00 AM &amp; 7:00 PM Lenten Worship        Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes</p>
<p><b><u>Sunday, March 9, 2014</u></b>        8:00 AM Service of the Word        9:15 AM Sunday School        10:30 AM Holy Communion</p>
<p><b><u>Wednesday, March 12, 2014</u></b>        11:00 AM &amp; 7:00 PM Lenten Worship</p>
<p><b><u>Sunday, March 16, 2014</u></b>        8:00 AM Holy Communion        9:15 AM Sunday School        10:30 AM Service of the Word - <i>Girl Scout Sunday</i></p>
<p><b><u>Wednesday, March 19, 2014</u></b>        11:00 AM &amp; 7:00 PM Lenten Worship</p>
<p><b><u>Sunday, March 23, 2014</u></b>        8:00 AM Service of the Word        9:15 AM Sunday School        10:30 AM Holy Communion</p>
<p><b><u>Wednesday, March 26, 2014</u></b>        11:00 AM &amp; 7:00 PM Lenten Worship</p>
<p><b><u>Sunday, March 30, 2014</u></b>        8:00 AM Holy Communion        9:15 AM Sunday School        10:30 AM Holy Communion</p>

**YOUTH GROUP**

**Clothing Drive:** The youth group will be collecting clothing from Sunday, March 9 (9 AM - Noon) through Friday, March 14. You can drop off your clothing during daily office hours in the Narthex or Monday through Friday through our drive thru drop-off service. The drive thru service will have youth group members available to assist you with unloading your vehicle. Look for signs for the drive thru door where the youth will be waiting. Please use the door on the side of the church closest to the parsonage.



**Mon 3/10, Fri 3/14, Thurs 3/13:**

7:30 AM – 4 PM **AND** Drive Thru 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

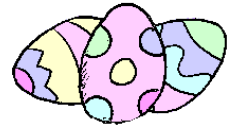
**Tues 3/11:**

9 AM – 3 PM **AND** Drive Thru 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Wed 3/12:**

7:30 AM – 4 PM **AND** Drive Thru 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

**Easter Candy:** We will be selling peanut roll eggs fresh and homemade by the youth group in early April. Look for sign-ups in March to pre-order your peanut roll eggs!



**Other Events for the Youth**

- ✓ March 29 - Laser Tag at Lehigh Valley Laser Tag - \$18
- ✓ Save the Date: Youth Group Shore Trip - Monday, July 14 - Thursday, July 17

*\* Please note there is no POW in March or April due to Lenten services on Wednesday nights*

**NORTHAMPTON AREA FOOD BANK**

Hope Lutheran Church is responsible for providing volunteers to work at the Northampton Area Food Bank during the month of March. Volunteers are needed to assist with unpacking the food delivered to the food bank, packing of orders for distribution to needy families and distribution at the food bank of packed orders. Volunteers are needed on the following dates and times:

<b>DAYS/DATES</b>	<b>TIMES</b>	<b>DUTIES</b>
<b>Monday</b> March 3	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Un-packing of food delivery from Second Harvest (need to be able to lift cases of food)
<b>Wednesdays:</b> March 5, 12 and 19	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Packing of food orders
<b>Fridays:</b> March 7 and 14	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Packing of food orders

**A sign up list is located on church bulletin board.** The Northampton Area Food Bank is located at 1601 Canal Street, Northampton. For additional information or to sign up to volunteer, contact Leslie Daniel at 610-216-1340.

**MID WEEK LENTEN SERVICES**

**WHAT IS IT ABOUT THOSE LUTHERANS?**

**Evening Mid-week Lenten Services**

What is it about Lutherans that make them Lutherans? What do they really believe? What makes them different than other Christian denominations? It all goes back to Martin Luther and the theology he developed out of the Protestant Reformation. This Lent, during our Wednesday evening mid-week services, we will explore some of these questions through some interesting, informative, fun-filled dialogue with different “guests” each week. **Join us for worship at 7:00 PM** beginning March 5<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday – and continuing each Wednesday throughout the Lenten season. Here’s the line-up:

- ❖ **Ash Wednesday – March 5<sup>th</sup>**  
Latin 101 – *Simul Justus et Peccator* – Simultaneously saint and sinner – can that be?
- ❖ **Week 1 – March 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Being Lutheran – What does that mean?
- ❖ **Week 2 – March 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Latin 101 continued – *Sola Scriptura* – Scripture solo – really?
- ❖ **Week 3 – March 26<sup>th</sup>**  
The Priesthood of All Believers – Is that a new cult?
- ❖ **Week 4 – April 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
Forgiveness – Is it really good for the soul?
- ❖ **Week 5 – April 9<sup>th</sup>**  
Law and Gospel – A new police drama?

### ASH WEDNESDAY

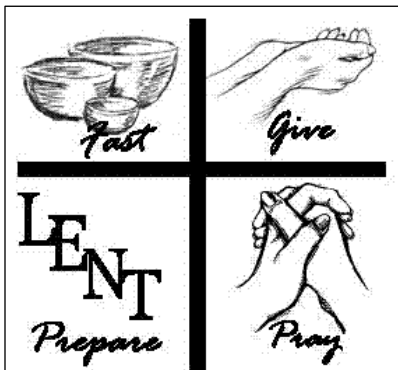


Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes will be offered at two worship services on Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2014, either 11:00 AM or 7:00 PM.

**Stations of the Cross service will be held on Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**

### WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

Worship at 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM each Wednesday in Lent. Come join your friends at Hope this Lenten Season – a powerful, life-changing journey that calls to prayerful and honest repentance. Wednesdays in Lent are... March 12, 19, 26 and April 2 and 9.



#### WEDNESDAY MORNING LENTEN SERVICE SERIES

Is the Bible one big story or a bunch of little ones? And what does it have to do with you? Come find out how you fit into God's story during our Wednesday morning mid-week Lenten services. Each Wednesday at **11:00 AM** Hope Church will offer worship and a message based on the series by Jacob Armstrong entitled "The God Story." Here are the weekly titles and readings:

- Wed., March 5 – Ash Wednesday –  
with imposition of ashes and Holy Communion
- Wed., March 12 – Lent 1 – Gen. 1:1-2, 26-24 – *Introduction: Life as a Story*
- Wed., March 20 – Lent 2 – Gen. 18:1-15 – *Suspension of Disbelief: I Didn't Think My Life Would Look like This*
- Wed., March 27 – Lent 3 – Exo.:2-4,13-16 –  
*Rising Action: Dramatic Rescue*
- Wed., April 2 – Lent 4 – I Sam. 16:1-13 –  
*The Inciting Incident: An Unlikely Choice*
- Wed., April 9 – Lent 5 – Zeph. 3:14-17 – *Soundtrack: A Prophet's Voice*
- Wed., April 16 – Lent 6 – John 12:12-19 –  
*Waiting for Resolution: The Waiting Is Over*

We hope you will set aside time to join us for mid-week Lenten services – and hear the story of God's love – and how you fit into the story, too.





## HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4131 LEHIGH DRIVE | CHERRYVILLE PA 18035 | HOPECHERRYVILLE.ORG

### HOPE LEADERSHIP

#### STAFF

<b><u>PASTOR</u></b> The Rev. Jami Possinger <a href="mailto:pastor@hopecherryville.org">pastor@hopecherryville.org</a> 610-767-7203 ext. 12 610-799-2449 (h)	<b><u>ASSISTANT PASTOR</u></b> The Rev. Paulette Obrecht <a href="mailto:assistant@hopecherryville.org">assistant@hopecherryville.org</a> 610-767-7203 ext. 13 610-837-9256 (h)
<b><u>VISITATION PASTOR</u></b> The Rev. Jerry Mraz	<b><u>PASTOR EMERITUS</u></b> The Rev. Clark W. Kuntz II
<b><u>ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER</u></b> Mrs. Jane Tretiak <a href="mailto:office@hopecherryville.org">office@hopecherryville.org</a> 610-767-7203	<b><u>DIRECTOR OF MUSIC</u></b> Mr. David R. Ziegler <a href="mailto:organist@hopecherryville.org">organist@hopecherryville.org</a> 610-767-7203 ext.11
<b><u>BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR</u></b> Mrs. Janet Filchner 610-767-7203 ext. 40	<b><u>SEXTON</u></b> Mrs. Bonnie Zmyewski
<b><u>TREASURER</u></b> Mrs. Trudy Mertz	<b><u>FINANCIAL SECRETARY</u></b> Mrs. Deb Gardner
<b><u>COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST</u></b> Nina Weiss <a href="mailto:communications@hopecherryville.org">communications@hopecherryville.org</a> 610-767-7203 ext. 20	

### Congregational Council

Linda Mery <i>President</i>	Tim Lockard <i>Vice President</i>	Amy Nichols <i>Secretary</i>
Kasey Frey	Jim Gardner	Tim Moore
Al Rock	Tony Pagotto	Tom Patterson
Bruce Schnabel	Bob Small	John P. Zmyewski

### CONTACT INFORMATION

New membership, baptisms, funerals, weddings, change of address, van requests, memorial sponsors, hospital admissions, facility rentals	<b>Call the church office 610-767-7203</b>
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<b>REGARDING</b>	<b>CALL</b>	<b>PHONE. NO.</b>
Basket Cmte	Linda Sidor	610-767-8372
Boy Scouts	Mike Weber	570-905-6319
Church Website	Tom Perry	610-261-0743
Confirmation	Pastor Jami Pastor Paulette	610-767-7203
Cub Scouts	Emily Hassler	610-760-1547
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
Prayer Shawl	JoAnne Creyer	610-262-3204
Property	Earl Snyder	610-703-5166
SCS/Christian Ed	Michelle Hughes	484-547-4585
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	Diane Esch	610-767-2977
Tae Kwon Do	Rich Mullen	610-760-0958
Yard Sale	Ralph Fisher	610-392-4985

## **Our Mission**

STATEMENT  
STATEMENT  
STATEMENT  
STATEMENT

*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.*

## THANK YOU NOTES

**Dear Members of Hope Lutheran Church,**

Thank you so much for the scholarship money. Your continued support means so much to me. God bless you all.

Sincerely,

***Julie Wainwright***

**Nina received a call from a member who just wanted to say... Thanks to the Soup Group for the soup!**

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## 2014 SPRING BASKET SOCIAL

**YOU ARE INVITED** to attend the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Walk-in Basket Social on **Friday, April 11th**, to be held in Kuntz Hall at Hope Lutheran Church, located along Route 248 in Cherryville. **Proceeds** will again be divided equally between The Northampton Area Food Bank and Hope Church Good Samaritan Fund. Everyone is also invited to bring along a canned good or nonperishable item for The Food Bank.

**Ticket Sponsors:** In Honor of ALL Hope Lutheran Volunteers by LeAnn Chandler, and In Loving Memory of Harry Weil by Loretta & Family. Thank you!

Doors open at 4 p.m. and tickets may be purchased until 7:15 p.m. The drawing begins at 7:30 p.m. Winners will be notified via phone that same evening. Each card holds 25 tickets or chances to win theme baskets. Cards are sold for \$5 each or 3 for \$10. Delicious homemade foods, baked goods & refreshments will be sold. As always, there is also a Special Drawing (strip tickets = \$1 ea. Or 6 for \$5) of prizes valued at \$50 and up.

**You are welcome to help with this event** by donating a theme basket, gift certificate, bottled water, canned soda, or baked good. **Gift cards are welcome and appreciated from any Member/Friend of Hope Church in business for themselves, or from any Member/Friend of Hope who could purchase one at any business and donate it to the Spring Social.** Items may be given to any Committee Member at an earlier date OR dropped off in the fellowship hall the evening before the social (Thursday, April 10th from 6:30-8:30 p.m.).

### **Guidelines to follow when preparing theme baskets:**

- Use only NEW/UNUSED items
- No single wrapped candy, breakfast bars, etc. Do not open bagged or boxed food items; they must remain in their entirety for gift-giving
- Be sure to check the expiration dates on all canned goods or packaged foods

Questions may be directed to the Hope Church Office by calling 610.767.7203.

Thank you! The Basket Committee looks forward to seeing you on April 11<sup>th</sup>!

Sincerely,

Kathy Fogle & Linda Sidor, Co-Chairs for the Spring Basket Social, and

The Basket Committee of Hope Lutheran Church

**SPECIAL NOTE TO BASKET COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Our business meeting is scheduled for Monday evening, March 31 at 6:30 p.m. in Hanson Hall.