

# HOPE HOME NEWS

Vol. XLI N<sup>o</sup> 4 April 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 - FEBRUARY 28, 2014**

	<b>Regular</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Memorial</b>	<b>Scholarship Loan</b>	<b>Memorial Garden</b>
<b>Balance Beginning of Year</b>	\$ 76,661.59	\$ 83,981.26	\$ 90,833.11	\$ 103,109.55	\$ (13,046.92)
Income - February	25,928.68	2,489.20	549.25	-	-
Income - January	23,042.41	3,594.17	3,525.82	5,299.82	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>48,971.09</b>	<b>6,083.37</b>	<b>4,075.07</b>	<b>5,299.82</b>	<b>-</b>
Expenses - February	39,115.01	99.00	619.00	-	-
Expenses - January	33,150.75	99.00	-	3,600.00	-
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>72,265.76</b>	<b>198.00</b>	<b>619.00</b>	<b>3,600.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(23,294.67)</b>	<b>5,885.37</b>	<b>3,456.07</b>	<b>1,699.82</b>	<b>-</b>
Net Special Appeals	200.00				
<b>Balance End of February</b>	<b>\$ 53,566.92</b>	<b>\$ 89,866.63</b>	<b>\$ 94,289.18</b>	<b>\$ 104,809.37</b>	<b>\$ (13,046.92)</b>

**SUMMARY:**

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of February by \$13,186.33, and for the year 2014, expenses exceeded income by \$23,294.67, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$53,566.92. Last year the net income for the same period was \$(10,876.36) with a balance of \$77,814.25.

Budget Comparison--Total Regular Fund Budget for 2014 is \$416,769.00. 8/52 of that figure is \$64,118.31. Our receipts in the Regular Fund for the two months were \$48,971.09. So, we are behind in income by \$15,147.22.

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

**NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE**

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 ([communications@hopecherryville.org](mailto:communications@hopecherryville.org)) by **12:00 PM** on the deadline date. Thank you.

<b><u>Edition</u></b>	<b><u>Article Deadline</u></b>	<b><u>Collation Date</u></b>
May	Monday, April 21	Thursday, April 24
June	Monday, May 19	Thursday, May 22
July	Monday, June 23	Thursday, June 26

**SYNOD NEWS**

The April 2014 issue of *Synod News* is available online. Visit [http://www.godslove.org/publications/synod\\_news.htm](http://www.godslove.org/publications/synod_news.htm) and select *April 2014*.



## GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR...

*From Pastor Jami Possinger*



I am tired of winter! I know this is not something you haven't heard in the past weeks – but I just had to say it. I'm done with the beautiful white flurries and the ugly, dirty piles. I'm weary of the constant worry about digging out at home and having the parking lot plowed at church. I'm through with school closings and the concern about canceling worship. I finished with scattering salt and knocking icicles off the spouting. I am looking forward to spring!

At the same time... I am grateful for the seasons of the year because they remind me of the seasons of my life. Each season of the year brings with it things that we love and things we could do without. Spring is refreshing and alive – but sometimes too rainy. Summer is sunny and bright – but often too hot. Fall is colorful and cool – but the leaves we have to rake! Winter is invigorating – but the snow and ice are often not welcomed.

Isn't the same true of our lives – each season of life brings with it things that we love and things we could do without. Childhood is often free from worries – but we lack independence. Young adult years are exciting – but we have jobs and responsibilities. Middle age years allow us to settle our lives a bit – but many experience the sandwich generation. Older years bring wisdom – but aches and pains come with it!

Yet when we look at all the seasons – even with all the good things and the not so good things – they create a beautiful tapestry of life. And when we look at that tapestry, we realize how intricately it is woven together. If we tried to remove one thread the whole thing would change. If we tried to remove many threads, the tapestry would fall apart. We need the seasons. We need the good and the bad – the growth and the limitations – the carefree times and the worries – to make us whole.

So... although I'm done with winter I will be grateful for it – for the water that will come from the snow – for the snowmen that were built so I could enjoy – for the boost it gave to the local economy (ski resorts, snow removal companies, hardware stores, etc.) – for the cold weather so that I more appreciate the warmth of spring – for the churches and communities that banded together to offer shelter to the homeless – for the closeness that a snow day at home brings to a family – for the uniqueness of each snow flake – for the wonder that God creates and is still creating and the fact that I get to be a part of it all.

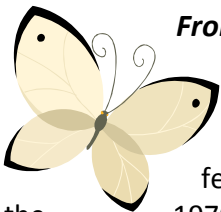
With all that said... I am READY for Spring!

Blessings,  
Pastor Jami

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## ASSISTANT PASTOR'S WORD...

*From Pastor Paulette Obrecht*



I like to collect sayings from inspirational writers and post them in a frame to hang on the wall. Just check out the walls in my office at Hope, if you think I'm exaggerating. Here's one I found a few years ago from Richard Bach, the author of *Jonathan Livingston Seagull*, a new-age book from the 1970's: "What the caterpillar calls the end of the world, the Master calls a butterfly." It's a good saying to use at this time of the year – the season of Easter. Christians often use butterflies as symbols of the joy and transformation associated with the Resurrection of our Lord.

The butterfly is a powerful symbol of transformation. And, if you take a moment to think about the transformation of the Resurrection, you might notice it was not only Jesus who was changed. When the women at the tomb realized that Jesus was risen, they were transformed. When the two disciples who walked with the transformed

Jesus on the road to Emmaus realized they had seen the Lord, they too were changed. When the disciples began sharing their stories of the significance of Jesus in their lives, they emerged from the cocoons of their fearfulness and their “wings” were unraveled, giving them a sense of lightness and joy and new spirit in their lives.

The butterfly, in some cultures, serves as a reminder to make changes when the opportunity arises. They can serve as reminders to *us* to get up and move out of *our* cocoons. We have a risen opportunity to celebrate the gift of new life given to us through the death and

***(continued on page 4)***

resurrection of Jesus Christ. Be filled with the joy of transformation! Share the story! Spread *your* wings and be filled with God’s spirit. Dance with the butterflies.

*He is not here, he has risen, just as he said. Come see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell ....*

– Matthew 28:6-7a (NIV)

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

- ⤵ **“Coffee with the Council”** is a new opportunity the church council is offering to keep communications between the governing board and members flowing. “Coffee with the Council” is designed to create a chance for everyone who is interested to meet and speak with council members in a relaxed atmosphere. On Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:15 AM to 10:15 AM, members are welcome share coffee, goodies and conversation with council representatives in Kuntz Hall. Would you like to have a financial statement reviewed, ask questions about council decisions or offer some suggestions about our ministry? This is an opportunity for members to do just that.
- ⤵ Financially, January and February were difficult months. Snowstorms affected Sunday morning worship attendance and costs for snowplowing were far above what we have had to pay in past winters. Council encourages members to stay current with their giving and consider an extra “snowstorm” gift as they are able.
- ⤵ Council approved the formation of an audio/visual committee. Pastor Jerry will be working on this.
- ⤵ The Disaster Response breakfast raised over \$600 toward their next mission trip.
- ⤵ On May 1<sup>st</sup> (National Day of Prayer) at 11:00 AM Pastor Paulette will hold a prayer service followed by a luncheon in Kuntz Hall.
- ⤵ The Security System installation is complete and we are phasing in the implementation. Currently the church is locked down during the day and opened for evening activities from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Please be aware that during office hours a “buzz-in” system is in place.
- ⤵ Worship and Music Committee announced that after discussing comments that came to the committee regarding “altar” communion, we will be trying it again at both worship services on April 6<sup>th</sup> – also the date for First Communion.
- ⤵ The spring Basket Social is Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>; council will donate a “Tastefully Simple” basket.
- ⤵ Pastor Paulette has a group that is looking into a “homeless ministry.”
- ⤵ The Youth Group has scheduled a Vera Bradley bingo for May 10<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow.

### **PASTORAL ACTS**

#### **BAPTISMS**

Pastor Jami officiated at the Baptism of **Jameson Hale Moccia** (March 2014), son of John and Crystal (Rock) Moccia on Sunday March 16<sup>th</sup>.

***Please welcome Jameson as the newest member of our church family.***

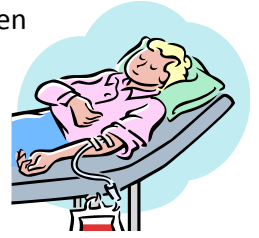
#### **FUNERALS**

**Fred Koran** entered eternal life on February 20, 2014. Funeral services were held at Harding Funeral Home.

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

### RECENT BLOOD DONORS

The following members of Hope Lutheran Church donated blood in February – way to go! Steven Paly and Wendy Clowes Strohl. **We have 10 pints YTD on our goal of 32 - 22 to go.** 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.



This new monthly feature explores Hope's "**Hidden Gems**," to focus on the happenings that might fly under the radar of members. Learn and grow in the many facets of Hope. Maybe find a gem of your own!

### ARC Friendship Dance

About 20 years ago, Darlene and Charlie Pioli moved to the Cherryville area and were looking for opportunities for developmentally-disabled young adults to socialize and have fun in a warm, accepting atmosphere. In New Jersey, there were monthly dances, but none were found in the Lehigh Valley. So Charlie and Darlene started their own. Hope Church agreed to provide the location, and ARC of Lehigh and Northampton Counties would help with sponsorship. ARC is an organization that offers advocacy services people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and provides support and networking to help individuals and families attain services. So, the combination of the Pioli's passion, Hope Church's compassion, and the organizational resources of ARC (plus a sprinkle of the Holy Spirit at work) resulted in the creation of ARC Friendship Dances.

But, that was only the start. Once word got out, local DJ Tony Allen offered to "spin records". The "kids" who attend have grown to love Tony and his of music, especially when he plays special sets of songs. Then, parents, caregivers, and a few members of the community volunteered to help chaperone and provide refreshments. Students from LCCC Occupational Therapy Assistant Program regularly serve as volunteers as part of their training. Students from Northampton High School expanded their volunteer efforts by forming the "Peer Helper" program in special education classes in their school. Many of them go on to become special education teachers. "Kids", their families, and caregivers from all over the Valley began attending these dances, some from as far away as Quakertown and Easton.

A few years ago, as volunteers dwindled, the Pioli's put a notice in Hope's bulletin asking for help – and Judy Dieter, as well as members of Hope Social Ministry Committee stepped up to help. The dances, thus far, have been financially self-sufficient, with each dancer paying \$5 admission to cover the cost of the DJ and refreshments and there are usually funds left over to make a donation to Hope for providing space.

Next year, Darlene will pass the torch to Judy Dieter. Charlie and Darlene, and Judy, hope and pray that these dances – and this important ministry – will continue. If you want to volunteer for an energizing and fun event, contact Judy Dieter (610- 767-9170) or just stop in Kuntz Hall any 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, from 7-9 PM, from September to May. All ages are welcome.

### SPRING WOMEN'S RETREAT

In our hectic lives, women don't find enough time for their friends. In a recent study on friendship conducted by Pepperidge Farm, nearly half of the women admit they neglect their friends most consistently when they get busy or overwhelmed – and they lack opportunities to meet new people. If that sounds like you...come join us at **"Chocolate Boutique."**

**Chocolate Boutique** will be a "sweet retreat" for everyone who attends! It's 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** for this unique opportunity to meet other women, share our faith and have a lot of fun and fellowship! We will meet at St. Francis Center for Renewal in Bethlehem at 6:00 PM on Friday and finish at 5:00 PM on Saturday. The cost of the retreat will be \$75.00 and includes your room, breakfast and lunch on Saturday as well as the presentations. Checks may be made payable to Hope Lutheran Church. If you are interested in joining us, please make your reservation with the Pastor Jami by:

- signing the list on the main bulletin board
- calling PJ at the church office 610-767-7203
- sending an email to [pastor@hopecherryville.org](mailto:pastor@hopecherryville.org)

**The deadline for registration is Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup>.** This is your opportunity to "retreat" – to get away with other women who want to share their faith, participate in some Bible Study, worship together and just have some FUN! Come on...step into **"Chocolate Boutique"** and satisfy your cravings for friends, God and spiritual growth! It's a retreat you won't want to miss!

### SOUP GROUP

Soup Kitchen will meet on **Wednesday, April 2** at 9 AM to prepare the soup for that day's delivery to homebound members. Help is always needed to deliver the soup; call LeAnn Chandler at 610-440-0341 or merely show up that day.



### STORY WEAVERS - DISCUSSION GROUP

The StoryWeavers group will be meeting on **Tuesday, April 8** at 1 PM. for an afternoon of games and refreshments. All are welcome to attend. Note: the different start time. For more information, please contact LeAnn Chandler at [lachandler7759@hotmail.com](mailto:lachandler7759@hotmail.com) or 610-440-0341.

### WELCA

- ✓ **Saturday, April 5:** WELCA Spring Retreat St. John's Lutheran, Nazareth
- ✓ **Tuesday, April 15:** WELCA 9:00 AM
- ✓ **April 25-26:** Pastor Jami's Women's Retreat
- ✓ **Tuesday, April 29:** WELCA Spring Cluster Event, Union Lutheran, Neffs

### WOMEN OF FAITH

The new "Women of Faith" group met on Monday, March 17, and outlined meetings and activities for the remainder of the year. The mission of this group is to provide opportunities for fellowship, learning, and service for women who work during the day or prefer to meet in the evening. Their next meeting will be **Monday, April 28, at 7 PM** in the Conference Room. All ages are invited to join us and help create a vision for the group.

Hope Church 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 is now available on the bulletin board in the Narthex. If you require more information, contact Pastor Paulette (610-767-7203).

In Linda Perrone Rooney's book *Praying Our Grief: Comfort and Prayers for Widows*, she writes about using prayer as a support and refuge. Here are some thoughts from her, with modifications:

Everything changed when our loved one died. It might have felt like a tidal had overtaken us – or an like an earthquake knocked us off your feet and sent us reeling. Is there nothing to which we can cling? Is there no one whose enduring support we can count on?

These are the same kinds of thoughts expressed by the psalmists and by Job. Their writings might provide some comfort – for in their laments we witness souls unafraid to throw themselves on the Lord, with faith in God's answers.

Prayer, the lifting of our minds and hearts to God, is truly the glue that binds us to this world and gives us entry into the next. Prayer comes in many forms: the simple, spontaneous words of conversation with God; formal prayers in a book; corporate prayer with a community of people; the unspoken, silent prayer of the heart. The form isn't important. Prayer is the rock on which we can build our lives.

In prayer, we meet the One whose presence is healing and whose love is unconditional. In prayer, we find the One who knows our needs, who is comfortable with our tears and who doesn't hide from our distress. God is the one who longs to give us all that our heart desires.

If you don't already have a time of prayer set aside in your day ... begin today. At first you might start with a time of quietness and tranquility. Later, you might use a prayer book or read the scriptures. Eventually, as your are faithful to your time with God, you will find your heart expressing its deepest thoughts and feelings. The next step is to wait – and receive the response of One who knows you inside-out.

Here is Linda Rooney's prayer for you:

*Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, give me the words to tell you what it feels like to lose a loved one – how much I miss this person in my life. Help me to spill the thoughts and feelings of my heart and to leave time and room to listen for your response. Offer me a glimpse of your strength and unconditional regard. Let me cling to you in my grief so that I might rejoice with you in the days to come. Amen.*

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### **BALTIMORE ORIOLES & INNER HARBOR TRIP**

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



### **SOCIAL MINISTRY**

Highlights from the last meeting March 4:

Special Easter goody bags will be prepared for the Gracedale Floor D-3 residents and our homebound members. The congregation will be asked to supply toiletry items to fill the bags, which will be delivered on Saturday, April 12. Other upcoming activities include a special lunch after the morning worship service on Maundy Thursday, and Gracedale Talent Night, scheduled for Monday, May 5. The Committee will meet again on Tuesday, April 22, at 11:00 AM. Anyone is welcome to attend and bring their ideas for service projects.

## 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**

- ✓ Mentor Movie Night, Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6:30 - 8:30 PM

### **LEVEL II**

- ✓ Weekend Retreat is April 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>. This is a mandatory retreat in preparation for confirmation on June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ Mentor/Student Car Wash – Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</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.***

## HOPE DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM EVENTS

The Disaster Response Team will meet on **Wednesday, April 30, at 6:30 PM**, in Hanson Hall. More information about the July mission trip to Camden, NY will be presented. The Team will also discuss possible target dates for helping with a local Habitat for Humanity project. The recent breakfast raised slightly over \$600 for Team projects and we are grateful for the generosity of Hope congregation. Additional projects for raising funds for mission and disaster response projects will be discussed at the April meeting. Team meetings are open to all congregational members, so feel free to join us to learn more about this exciting ministry of Hope Church.

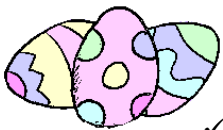
## EASTER FLOWER SALE

Orders for assorted flowers will be taken after worship services in the narthex ending April 6<sup>th</sup>. Prices from \$4 to \$10.25. Questions? Contact Deb Gardner 610-767-8421.



## YOUTH GROUP

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



### **Other Events for the Youth**

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

## SPRING BASKET SOCIAL

- Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has approved \$700.00 "matching funds" on profits raised at the Spring Social for The Northampton Area Food Bank. We thank them for their continuing support of our fundraisers that help people in our surrounding communities!
- **On April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014, we celebrate our 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Basket Social! Please see flier at the end of this newsletter!**

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

- Hope Lutheran Basket Committee

## HOPE FEST

Mark your calendars for Hope Fest 2014, to be held RAIN OR SHINE on Friday, June 20th and Saturday, June 21st. Watch for more details in upcoming bulletins and newsletters.



## “Why I'm Getting a Divorce in 2014”

By Jarrid Wilson | <http://jarridwilson.com>

Jarrid is a husband, pastor, author, and blogger. Recently, he wrote a shocking public confession on his blog. He writes: Before you start assuming I will be leaving my wife, let me just tell you that's just simply not the case. I'm looking to leave someone else. Someone you may not know about. Someone who takes up most of my time, distracts me from spending time with my wife, and even spends time with me during the late hours of the night.

Her name is iPhone 5. She's extremely smart, funny, reliable, and keeps me up to date with all the latest trends. And although she's always by my side, I can't help but notice that she is keeping me from spending time with the people who matter most in my life: God, my wife, my family, and my dreams.

She's really good at keeping my attention. So much so that I've been known to completely ignore people when they are trying to have a conversation with me. She tempts me to use her apps while at church, weddings and funerals, instead of enjoying the moment undistracted. She even keeps me from working on personal projects that have strict deadlines.

She's extremely insensitive when it comes to my safety, and is always tempting me to be with her while I drive. I can't help but notice she is slowly infecting my social life, my marriage, and the lives of those around me. Many people act like it's no big deal, but I imagine the longer one ignores this issue, the worse one's personal relationships will be affected in the long run.

We need to bring our phones back to being an accessory, not a priority. 2014 Challenge: Divorce your phone, your apps, your social-feeds, and engage in relationships with people that actually matter. Vow to spend a significant amount of time off your mobile-devices, unplugged, and instead get back to making personal relationships that will stand the test of time.

Other than God, my wife deserves to be the #1 priority in my life and I don't want anything to get in the way of that. The reality is, we're all married to our phones in one way or another.

Mind you. Not everyone struggles with this. But I hope you will take this into consideration regardless.

1. Learn to balance the time you spend on your phone.
2. Make your phone an accessory rather than a priority.
3. Give yourself limitations as to when and where your phone can be used.
4. Control how you use your phone, and stop allowing your phone to control you.
5. Try spending parts of your weekends unplugged, offline, and away from your mobile device.

In 2014, I vow to divorce my phone. Will you join me? Share this with a friend, and let's get the "Divorce Your Phone" movement going.

A recent survey by the Barna Group, a California research firm, found that 16% of those who observe Lent planned to curtail their use of sites like Facebook and Twitter part of their 40-day fast. If the figures are calculated to include those who are giving up other forms of technology, the survey suggests 48% of practicing Protestants and 31% of practicing Christians are “fasting from technology”.

### **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. Register online at [www.bearcreekcamp.org](http://www.bearcreekcamp.org).

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



**Attention all Secret Agents...** coming **July 7-11 "International Spy Academy"**. Grab your brief cases, secret decoder rings, and spy glasses for Hope's Vacation Bible School. Classes will be held from 9 AM until noon, with a closing program on Friday evening. Ages include 3 yr olds (potty trained) to children completing 6<sup>th</sup> grade in June. We will be taking registrations soon. Lots of help will be need so please consider volunteering. A staff nursery is provided if you have younger children who are not old enough to attend. Needed this year for a craft are 20 oz. empty Gatorade bottles with the lids.



### EVANGELISM

The Evangelism Committee of Hope is planning some events for spring and summer:

- **Thursday, May 1:** National Day of Prayer, led by Pastor Paulette. There will be a light luncheon following the service.
- **Sunday, June 8:** Confirmation. There will be a celebration after the 10:30 AM confirmation service to honor our newly confirmed students.
- **Sunday, July 20:** church family picnic at Indiantrail Park. It will be a covered dish picnic. Games, fun, for all ages!
- **Saturday, August 2:** annual Knoebel's Grove picnic

Watch for information about all of these events and signup sheets. Mark your calendars and plan to join us and others from our church family. Everyone welcome!


### NEW HOMELESS MINISTRY TEAM AT HOPE

The newly-formed Homeless Ministry Team met on Sunday, March 9. Team members who visited the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter for homeless women reported back to the group. The team agreed to provide an evening meal for the women's shelter at Third Avenue Moravian Church in Bethlehem on Wednesday, March 26. The Social Ministry Committee of Hope will prepare a turkey dinner, and members of the team will deliver and serve it from 4 to 8 PM. The Team also learned other ways Hope Church can partner with the churches of the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter program throughout the year – and the Team will discuss ways to continue working with this worthwhile ministry when they meet again on Sunday, April 27, at 9:15 AM in Kuntz Hall. Anyone who is interested in helping the homeless population in our local communities is invited to attend.

### LUTHERAN DAY AT THE CAPITOL

*Put your faith on the table, and join Lutherans from around the state for learning, advocacy, and action.*

- Tues. May 6, 10 AM - 5PM, Trinity Lutheran Church in Camp Hill. Sponsored by LAMPa.
- Keynote speaker: Rep. Dave Reed, Chair of the House Majority Policy Committee, PA House of Representatives.
- Participate in legislative briefings, workshops, and a visit to Capitol to speak with local legislators
- 35th anniversary of LAMPa, with an optional reception and banquet in the Capitol Rotunda
- Room for up to 6 people to join Pastor Paulette in the Hope van
- Cost: \$20 (workshop), + \$30 dinner/reception
- Register by April 15
- More info: check the Narthex bulletin board or see Pastor Paulette.

	<p><b>Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p><b>10:30 AM</b></p>
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## 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? 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** continuing each Wednesday throughout the Lenten season. Here’s the line-up:

- ❖ **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?

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**STATIONS OF THE CROSS SERVICE**  
**Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**



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## WEDNESDAY MORNING LENTEN SERVICE SERIES

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 is offering worship and a message based on the series by Jacob Armstrong entitled “The God Story.” Here are the weekly titles and readings for April:

- **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.

### LENTEN BOOK STUDY:

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

The Lenten “Dinner Table Discussion” book study series based on Anne Lamott’s book “Help, Thanks, Wow! - the 3 Essentials of Prayer” is continuing through April. The group meets on Tuesday evenings from 6:00-7:15 PM in Hanson Hall and begins with a simple meal – soup, salad, and bread – followed by a discussion of this easy to read, humorous book. Leave refreshed and ready to face the week ahead. Try something new and different this Lenten season: dinner, discussion – and inspiration for life’s journey. Come for one or all of the sessions.

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE – APRIL 2014**

<p><b><u>Wednesday, April 2, 2014</u></b> 11:00 AM &amp; 7:00 PM Lenten Worship</p>
<p><b><u>Sunday, April 6, 2014</u></b> 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:15 AM Sunday School <b><i>10:30 AM First Holy Communion</i></b></p>
<p><b><u>Wednesday, April 9, 2014</u></b> 11:00 AM &amp; 7:00 PM Lenten Worship</p>
<p><b><u>Palm Sunday, April 13, 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, April 16, 2014</u></b> 11:00 AM Lenten Worship 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross</p>
<p><b><u>Thursday, April 17, 2014</u></b> 11:00 AM Holy Communion 7:00 PM Foot Washing / Holy Communion</p>
<p><b><u>Good Friday, April 18, 2014</u></b> 7:00 PM Tenebrae Prayer Vigil 11:00 PM – 5:00 AM Easter Day</p>
<p><b><u>Easter Sunday, April 20, 2014</u></b> 6:00 AM Holy Communion 8:00 AM Holy Communion 10:30 AM Holy Communion</p>
<p><b><u>Sunday, April 27, 2014</u></b> 8:00 AM Service of the Word 10:30 AM Holy Communion</p>

**HOPE CHURCH AND ELCA WORLD HUNGER**  
**Bike for World Hunger**

Hooray! It's finally back in operation – **Bike for World Hunger!** This revived event has been scheduled for Saturday, May 17, from 9 AM - 1 PM and will be held at Bob Rodale Fitness and Cycling Park in Trexlertown. Look for the posters on the Narthex bulletin board for more details and to sign up. (Get your permission / sponsor forms from Pastor Paulette). Participants can either bike, walk, run, or rollerblade. (Helmets are needed for bikers and those who rollerblade). You can also come to the Park to provide support and cheering for Hope's Bike(r) Team!

**As a challenge to our congregation, if 6 people sign up by Wednesday, April 23 – Pastor Paulette will provide t-shirts for all members of Hope's Bike(r) Team – and sponsor each participant for up to 20 miles @ 10¢/mile. This would count as an outreach event for confirmation students, too!**

This synod-wide event will help Hope Church reach its former levels of leadership in raising funds for World Hunger. Last year, Hope Church contributed only \$300 toward ELCA Hunger – and, thanks to your generosity, in 2014 that amount has already **quadrupled!** Let's keep the momentum going. Help with ELCA's efforts to eradicate hunger and extreme poverty on a local level – and throughout the world.

### **MEALS OF HOPE PROJECT**

**Saturday, June 14 – in the PM - at Union Lutheran Church, Schnecksville**

On Saturday, June 14, at the Annual Synod Convention of the Women of the ELCA (WELCA), *all people* of the Synod are invited to join with the women of WELCA to work on an important project. During the afternoon of the Convention, everyone will gather to help assemble 10,000 meals for the “Meals of Hope project.” The packaged meals will consist of such things as rice, beans, vegetables, soy protein, and vitamins. Wouldn’t it be great if *Hope Church* supported its WELCA group by sending several teams of 6-12 people to help assemble food packages to feed the hungry in our country. Teams with children 7 years and older age are welcome! Look for the sign-up sheet on the Narthex. Confirmation students – this is another outreach event – and a fun one – to attend! See Pastor Paulette or Judy Dieter for more details.

### **INDIANLAND GARDEN CLUB**

The garden club will meet on Tuesday, April 8, at Hope Lutheran Church, at 7 PM. Doors open at 6 PM. Jack Jones will lead a program about birdhouses called, "Recycling for the Birds." Learn how to treat the birds. New members are welcome. The December trip to Longwood Gardens was cancelled and rescheduled for May 10. There are a few seats available. If interested, please contact 610-767-8420.

### **LEHIGH TOWNSHIP 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.

All proceeds benefit the work of the historical society. After the long harsh winter, come out and see your friends and neighbors - join in the fun! For More Information, call 610-767-5989.



# HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4131 LEHIGH DRIVE | CHERRYVILLE PA 18035 | HOPECHERRYVILLE.ORG

## HOPE LEADERSHIP

### STAFF

<p><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)</p>	<p><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)</p>
<p><b><u>VISITATION PASTOR</u></b> The Rev. Jerry Mraz</p>	<p><b><u>PASTOR EMERITUS</u></b> The Rev. Clark W. Kuntz II</p>
<p><b><u>ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER</u></b> Mrs. Jane Tretiak <a href="mailto:office@hopecherryville.org">office@hopecherryville.org</a> 610-767-7203</p>	<p><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</p>
<p><b><u>BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR</u></b> Mrs. Janet Filchner 610-767-7203 ext. 40</p>	<p><b><u>SEXTON</u></b> Mrs. Bonnie Zmyewski</p>
<p><b><u>TREASURER</u></b> Mrs. Trudy Mertz</p>	<p><b><u>FINANCIAL SECRETARY</u></b> Mrs. Deb Gardner</p>
<p><b><u>COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST</u></b> Nina Weiss <a href="mailto:communications@hopecherryville.org">communications@hopecherryville.org</a> 610-767-7203 ext. 20</p>	

### 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

<p>New membership, baptisms, funerals, weddings, change of address, van requests, memorial sponsors, hospital admissions, facility rentals</p>	<p><b>Call the church office 610-767-7203</b></p>
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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**

*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.*

