

# HOPE HOME NEWS

Vol. XLV N<sup>o</sup> 8 August 2018



***Published Monthly by:***

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4131 Lehigh Drive, P.O. Box 1030

Cherryville, PA 18035

610-767-7203

**[hopecherryville.org](http://hopecherryville.org)**



**HopeCherryville**

***Summer Worship Hours***

**9:00 AM Sunday**

**Through September 2<sup>nd</sup>**

***Church Office Hours***

**8:30 – 3:00 PM | Monday – Friday**

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY - JUNE 30, 2018**

	Regular	Building	Memorial	Scholarship Loan	Memorial Garden
Balance Beginning of Year	\$ 90,211.44	\$118,773.68	\$126,841.49	\$ 96,378.33	\$ (4,461.92)
Income - June	22,719.84	2,046.87	238.25	-	-
Income - Jan.-May	181,388.11	11,122.94	6,465.71	2,307.45	1,000.00
Total Income	204,107.95	13,169.81	6,703.96	2,307.45	1,000.00
Expenses - June	23,758.59	1,684.00	-	-	-
Expenses - Jan.-May	182,260.57	14,084.01	969.15	2,600.00	-
Total Expenses	206,019.16	15,768.01	969.15	2,600.00	-
Net Income	(1,911.21)	(2,598.20)	5,734.81	(292.55)	1,000.00
Net Special Appeals	961.38				
Balance End of June	\$ 89,261.61	\$116,175.48	\$132,576.30	\$ 96,085.78	\$ (3,461.92)

**SUMMARY:**

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of June by \$1,038.75, and for the year 2018, expenses exceeded income by \$1,911.21, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$89,261.61. Last year the net income for the same period was \$(5,817.51) with a balance of \$75,006.18.

**\*\* The current income statement is posted in the narthex.\*\***

<u>NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE</u>		
All committees, groups and persons submitting content for the church newsletter should follow the schedule listed below. Articles may be edited so we do not exceed Post Office guidelines. Please email your articles to Nina Weiss ( <a href="mailto:communications@hopecherryville.org">communications@hopecherryville.org</a> ). Thank you.		
<u>Edition</u>	<u>Article Deadline</u>	<u>Collation Date</u>
September	Friday, August 17 @ Noon	Thursday, August 23 @ 10:00 AM
October	Friday, September 14 @ Noon	Thursday, September 23 @ 10:00 AM

**Please let the office know if you need to update your delivery method of the Hope Home News. The paper copy contains all the news that's fit to print on six pages. The digital version generally runs longer.**

**SYNOD NEWS**

The June 2018 issue of *Synod News* is available online.

Visit <http://nepasynod.org/documents/synod-news/synod-news-2018-06.pdf>



**HOSPITAL CODE FOR HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHERRYVILLE: 251**



**GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR...**

*From Pastor Jami Possinger*



Forgiveness. We expect it when we need it – but often find it hard to offer when we’ve been hurt by another person. Recently someone came to me and asked how they were supposed to forgive a relative who caused a great rift in their family. As we sat discussing it – the person could just not see what it might look like to forgive. And that got me to thinking...

How do you explain to a child that’s never been to the ocean what waves are like? You might fill a bathtub with water and splash it back and forth. That could teach the action of waves – but is that what waves on the ocean look like? You might take the child to a nearby river with a few rapids and show them how the foam collects at the bottom of a fall “like on top of a wave.” But is that what a wave looks like? You might show them a 4x6 inch photograph. You might try to show them what waves sound like with a conch shell. But what about what waves look like as they come in and go out along the shore? What about their unending nature? What about the feel of the undercurrent of a wave going back to sea?

Truthfully - there is no substitute that can convey the scale and true nature of waves continually breaking on the shore - no analogies or to-scale models prepare children for their first trip to the beach. They can’t grasp the greatness until they’ve seen it for themselves – they must experience it.

Isn’t that also true when it comes to explaining what forgiveness looks like? No measure of teaching, preaching, and analogizing can make us really grasp what forgiveness means. We are creatures of experience. It takes a firsthand experience – the recognition of how God has forgiven us – before we can see how to forgive others. Jesus talked more about forgiveness and how we treat others than he talked about money.

Have **you** seen what God’s forgiveness looks like in your life yet? Have you felt the powerful wave of relief that rushes over you when you are forgiven?

Is it possible that we can extend love and forgiveness if we don’t understand how much Jesus has forgiven us? Maybe it’s time to take your own “beach trip” and survey the vastness of God’s incredible forgiveness that you have been offered. And then...step back and try to envision you offering that kind of forgiveness to one who has offended you.

God’s Blessings,  
Pastor Jami

**HOSPITALIZED?**

If you, or a family member, are hospitalized, please remember to give our church code which is 251. Also, please call the church office in addition to giving our code. We do not always receive your information when calling the hospitals. Also, if you are moved to a rehab center, please let us know that as well. We can only visit you if we know where you are!



**August 2018**

<b><u>Sunday, August 5, 2018</u></b> 9:00 AM Holy Communion/Scholarship Awards
<b><u>Sunday, August 12, 2018</u></b> 9:00 AM Holy Communion
<b><u>Sunday, August 19, 2018</u></b> 9:00 AM Holy Communion
<b><u>Sunday, August 26, 2018</u></b> 9:00 AM Holy Communion/Blessings of Backpacks



## PASTOR BRIAN'S PREPONDERANT BUSINESS

As Christians we believe in life after death. In our creeds we confess belief in the resurrection of the dead, and throughout our lives we hear and trust Jesus' promise of eternal life. I'm sure this isn't news to anyone.



Religions across the world have professed the same thing for thousands of years. But in modern times, as humanity has started to understand more and more about the world, belief in God or an afterlife has been criticized and heaven thought of as a fairy tale made up by those who fear death. Many of the world's top scientists believe consciousness is a product of the brain; and life, while still a mystery, will one day be explained as a purely physical phenomenon. But it is interesting to see the beginnings of a paradigm shift in the scientific community. As modern medicine gets even more successful at saving lives, we are starting to hear more and more reports of the afterlife from those who have died and been brought back to life. This phenomenon, called near-death experience (NDEs), is forcing us to rethink our understanding of the human brain and consciousness.

NDEs are experienced by people who have died and been resuscitated. Some of the most common are heart attack victims who die for several minutes before being revived by emergency responders. Others are people who were brain dead for a time, or suffered other serious health conditions. These people often report "seeing the light" or tell of out-of-body experiences where they saw their body below them in the operating room. Some even report travelling through a tunnel, experiencing a life review, and having heavenly experiences where they meet deceased relatives. One of the most profound NDEs recorded is that of Dr. Eben Alexander, a neurosurgeon who was brain-dead in a coma for almost a week. Dr. Alexander was not a very religious man before, but following his experience has dedicated his life to studying the mysteries of life and death, consciousness, and the

universe. He tells of his experience in the book *Proof of Heaven*, which our centering prayer group just started reading.

Dr. Alexander ends the prologue to his book with these profound words: "My experience showed me that the death of the body and the brain is not the end of consciousness, that human experience continues beyond the grave. More important, it continues under the gaze of a God who loves and cares about each one of us and about where the universe itself and all the beings within it are ultimately going...now that I have been privileged to understand that our life does not end with the death of the body or the brain, I see it as my duty, my calling, to tell people about what I saw beyond the body and beyond this earth" (Alexander, pg. 9-10).

If you are fascinated by this subject as much as I am, I hope you check out this book or another like it. If you are afraid of the unknown, or simply curious about what happens, I hope you take the time to read about such experiences. It is a fascinating subject to study, and I imagine such knowledge will transform religion and spirituality in coming generations. Blessings to you this month as you reflect on life, death, and the mysteries of the universe!

*Pastor Brian*

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### CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY

The photo directories are here. Please pick up your directory after a service or stop by the church office.



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### GARDENING HELP WANTED

A sign-up sheet for weekly weeding can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex. If you love gardening or just love to be outside, this is the opportunity for you!



### CENTERING PRAYER RETREAT

On Saturday August 18 members from Hope will be spending the day at St. Francis Center For Renewal in Bethlehem, PA. Together we will practice centering prayer and lectio divina. We'll learn about various mindfulness meditations and study the history of Christian spirituality and transformation. We'll enjoy each other's fellowship and our own quiet time with God, as well as the retreat center's beautiful surroundings. Even if you've never been to centering prayer group before this is an excellent opportunity to spend a day learning about Christian spirituality and enjoy quality time with God and your brothers and sisters of Hope. Cost will depend on how many sign up, but a good estimate is about \$30 per person. We'll gather at 10:00am and leave the retreat center at 4:00 pm; lunch will be provided. Sign up by contacting Pastor Brian or by signing up on the events bulletin board.



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### SOUP GROUP

Wednesday, August 1; 9 AM Soup Group and Delivery

### STORYWEAVERS

Luncheon at Villa Lentini in Balliettsville.  
Leave the church at 11:30 a.m.  
No meeting

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### ELECTRONIC GIVING

A Simple and Convenient Way to Give!

If you think you may miss church services this summer

[Online Giving](#)

due to travel or other commitments, consider setting up an automatic giving schedule. Your consistent support is vital to our church, especially during summer months. To set up a recurring contribution, visit the church website at [www.hopecherryville.org](http://www.hopecherryville.org) and locate the electronic giving page.

### GIVE FROM YOUR SMART PHONE

Make a contribution from your smart phone anytime by locating the Online Giving link on our home page... [www.hopecherryville.org](http://www.hopecherryville.org).

### WOMEN OF FAITH

*Our mission is to enhance lives of women through service, fellowship, and education.*



August 14<sup>th</sup> we will be enjoying an IronPigs game from the comfort of a suite, thanks to Nazareth Ford. Space is limited to 18. Sign up on the Narthex bulletin board.

***Everyone is welcome to attend any events you may have interest in! Questions, call Jane Tretiak at 484-767-2346.***

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### HOPE'S HELPING HANDS SHRIMP BOIL



It's Shrimp Boil time again! Come join Hope's Helping Hands on Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup> for our 4<sup>th</sup> annual SHRIMP BOIL. Orders will be taken after church on July 29, August 5 and August 12. Dinners include: **½ lb. of shrimp, ¼ lb.**

**sausage, baby potatoes, corn on the cob, salad, roll and butter, and dessert for only \$15.00.** Dinners will be available for TAKE OUT ONLY. Dinners for TAKE OUT can be picked up in Kuntz Hall during half hour intervals (you choose 4:00 to 4:30, 4:30 to 5:00, 5:00 to 5:30, or 5:30 to 6:00 for pick-up when you order your meal). All orders must be pre-paid. Orders may also be placed by calling Leslie Daniel at 610-216-1340 until August 12.

Hope's Helping Hands members are looking forward to seeing many of you on August 18<sup>th</sup>. We thank everyone who has supported our events as we continue our ministries of helping others in need.

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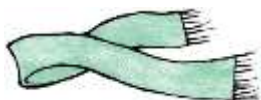


### CHURCH SOFTBALL TEAM

Games are played on Sunday evenings at 6:00 PM in Schnecksville parks. Check out their Facebook group "Hope Lutheran Softball" for exact locations and opponents!

## PRAYER SHAWL

Is enjoying summer break for July and August. See you in September! Yarn donations always welcome.



### Yard Sale

Friday, **August 31**

8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

*Early Bird Entrance at 7 AM - \$10*

Saturday, **September 1**

8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**Food, Drink, Bake Sale**

Items may be dropped off in the storage containers any day from 8 AM to 8 PM

### ***Acceptable Items Include:***

Clothing, shoes & purses; toys, games & puzzles; books movies, cds & video games; picture frames; sporting goods; arts & crafts; holiday items; small furniture; general household goods; glassware; kitchen ware; hand, power & yard tools, bedding & linens; newspapers, grocery bags & hangers

***Please NO Electronics, Large Furniture, Car Seats, Hard-Sided Luggage, or Mattresses/Box Spring***

Questions? Contact Doris Zellers at (610) 703-8550



Shop through **smile.amazon.com** and Amazon will donate .5% of sales back to Hope Lutheran Church! Our direct link...



**smile.amazon.com/ch/23-1948837**

## HOPE LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Now accepting registrations for three year olds for the 2018 – 2019 school year. The school's structured learning environment prepares children for their formal school experiences. Activities include: music, crafts, gym, painting, language arts, field trips and much more. Please call Deb Gable at 610-767-7523 for more information or to register your child for Nursery School. Your child must be either 3 years of age and potty trained by September 1<sup>st</sup> in order to register.

## YOUTH GROUP SUMMER EVENTS



August's youth group event is a trip to Pastor Jami's lakehouse on Wednesday, August 22, rain date is Thursday, August 23. We'll leave at 9am from Hope and be back around 8pm (if the weather's great maybe later). Bring your swimsuit, towel, sunscreen, and a snack to share.

On Saturday, September 22 youth group will be attending Youth Fest 2018 at Union Lutheran Church 9am-7pm. Cost will be \$20 per person. Watch for the email and sign-up about this awesome event!



Packets for 2018 confirmands are hanging on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please grab yours next time you are at Hope. Pictures from the day are posted here:

<https://hopecherryville.shutterfly.com/pictures/467>

**Confirmation Orientation** will be Sunday August 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. New and returning Confirmation students and their parents/guardians are asked to come to our orientation following worship August 26<sup>th</sup> in the sanctuary. This is a very important meeting, as we will discuss requirements and expectations, and hand out a calendar with the entire year's schedule. See you then!

### SUMMER HYMN SING

Your favorite hymns will be sung for 15 minutes before each service. Anything goes! Our hymnal has a lot of hymns to choose from, so pick your favorites and we will sing them. In order to accommodate as many requests as possible, we will only sing the first two stanzas of each hymn requested.



### SPONSORS FOR THE YEAR

All sponsor charts are posted in the narthex. Sponsor envelopes are next to the chart and are due to the office two weeks before the sponsorship.

- **Altar Flowers:** Two sponsors (*and only two*) of \$15.00 each are needed each week. *\*\*flowers are yours to keep and may be removed after the late service.*
- **Bulletins:** Three sponsors are needed per week at a cost of \$8.50 per sponsor.
- **The Press:** One sponsor is needed per week at a cost of \$6.00 per sponsor.

### EVANGELISM

**Bible studies** Thursday evening Bible studies have stopped for summer months. When we meet again in the fall we will be studying the miracles that Jesus performed. Did you know that at least 37 of these wonderful events are discussed in the new testament? As we study each miracle, we will try and relate it to events in our current life Our Bible studies are very informal. We are learning and growing in God's Word together. New members to this small group are always welcome.

Evangelism does a worship service and communion at 10:00 AM the second Wednesday of each month at Weston Village (Northampton Assisted Living) for the residents there. This is a rewarding experience. Anyone wishing to join us in this worship is welcome to do so.



has concluded  
for the year –  
see you in  
September!

### BASKET RAFFLE NEWS

Basket Members annual picnic at The Sidor Home is scheduled for Wednesday, August 8, 2018 at 6:00 PM.

### SENIOR BIRTHDAY SOCIAL

Saturday, August 11, 11:30 AM in Kuntz Hall all senior members of Hope Church are invited for food, fellowship, and entertainment. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

### HOPEFEST - 2019

There will be a HopeFest meeting on Tuesday September 25 at 7:00 PM in Hanson Hall. If enough people express interest in volunteering, we'll work on organizing HopeFest for next summer. So, if you'd like to see HopeFest next year please attend and help make it happen!

### RALLY DAY

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>! We'll have lots of special things planned for our first day of Sunday School. Watch for information packets with registration materials in the mail in late August.



### LAMPA LETTER WRITING

Hope's LAMPa group is meeting on Tuesday August 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 PM in Hanson Hall for a letter writing event. We'll write letters to local, state, and national representatives expressing our concerns as individuals (not as a congregation) about issues important to Lutheran advocacy. Those attending will be invited to share issues they are passionate about and offer suggestions of whom to contact. If you're passionate about advocacy issues and want to help make a difference please join us the evening of August 21<sup>st</sup> or speak with Pastor Brian to learn more.





**Friday, August 17**  
In Kuntz Hall  
Featuring "Boss Baby"  
Showtime 7:00 PM  
Doors open at 6:30 PM



Hot dogs, popcorn and drinks will be provided.

Bring your lounge chair.

This is a FREE event, everyone is welcome!

A sign-up sheet can be found on the Narthex bulletin board.



Keeping with the "baby" theme we will be accepting donations of baby products which will be donated to either the food bank or Mary's Shelter. This is **NOT** a requirement for entry.



### MINISTRY FAIR AT SYNOD OFFICE

On Saturday August 11<sup>th</sup> the Northeast PA Synod's Faith Formation Resource Ministry Team is offering a free ministry fair from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM, with a free lunch at noon. The Synod office is located at 2354 Grove Road, Allentown. Pastor Brian will be leading a workshop on Centering Prayer and spirituality! Sign up for the event on the synod's website: <http://nepasynod.org/event/ministry-fair/> or talk to Pastor Brian for more information.



### VEGETABLE SHARING

Do you have a garden? Do you have more tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, onions, beans, etc ...

than you know what to do with? If so, please share your excess vegetables with your church family. Bring them on **Sunday** mornings and place them on the table in the narthex. Anyone can then take whatever they can use. Thank you!

**(Sunday mornings only please!)**



People of Hope:  
working together, with God,  
to love and serve others...





# 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	<b><u>ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER</u></b> Mrs. Jennifer Sommers <a href="mailto:office@hopecherryville.org">office@hopecherryville.org</a> 610-767-7203 ext. 10
<b><u>ASSISTANT PASTOR</u></b> The Rev. Brian Rajcok <a href="mailto:asstpastor@hopecherryville.org">asstpastor@hopecherryville.org</a> 610-767-7203 ext. 13	<b><u>PASTOR EMERITUS</u></b> The Rev. Clark W. Kuntz II
<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>TREASURER</u></b> Mrs. Trudy Mertz	<b><u>FINANCIAL SECRETARY</u></b> Mrs. Deb Gardner
<b><u>COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST</u></b> Mrs. Laurie Christman <a href="mailto:communications@hopecherryville.org">communications@hopecherryville.org</a> 610-767-7203 ext. 20	<b><u>SEXTON</u></b> Mr. Johnny Zmyewski

### 2018 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Kim Belletti	Katie Weiss	Jim Gardner
Lee Creyer	Allison Lockard	Trish Ninos <i>President</i>
Tony Pagotto	Matt Sekol <i>Secretary</i>	Manfred Steiner
A.J. Szwast <i>Vice President</i>	Ed Tretiak	Susan Stephens

## 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>
A/V Committee	Bill & Reece Anderson	610-261-4744
Basket Cmte	Linda Sidor	610-767-8372
Boy Scouts	Tom Nichols	570-905-6319
Church Website	Tom Perry	610-261-0743
Confirmation	Pastor Brian	610-767-7203
Cub Scouts	Emily Hassler	610-760-1547
Evangelism	Sharyn Kratzer	610-261-1277
Finance	Doug Daniel	610-767-7918
Girl Scouts	Karen Zimmerman	610-760-1887
Hope Fest		
Hope's Helping Hands	Leslie Daniel	610-767-7918
Memorial Garden	Barry Ritter	610-428-2320
Mentor Leaders	Trish Ninos	610-360-6034
Mutual Ministry	Leslie Daniel	610-767-7918
Preschool	Deb Gable	610-767-7523
Outreach / Soup	LeAnn Chandler	610-440-0341
Prayer Chain	Dolores Reenock	610-767-6698
Prayer Shawl	JoAnne Creyer	610-262-3204
Property	Charlie Kutzler	610-262-4588
SCS / Christian Ed	Robin Zamadics Allison Lockard	610-509-1897 610-216-5384
Senior Center	Karen Ferraina	610-767-2977
Social Ministry	Marge Zimmerman	610-217-8324
Stewardship	Jim Gardner	610-767-8421
VBS	Kathy Ziegler	610-262-9197
WELCA	Judy Dieter	610-767-9170
Women of Faith	Jane Tretiak	610-767-0918
Worship Arts	Pastor Jami	610-767-7203
Worship & Music	Janet Filchner	610-262-5215
Youth Group	Pastor Brian	610-767-7203
Yard Sale	Doris Zellers	610-703-8550

**CORE**



**PURPOSE**

People of Hope:  
working together, with God,  
to love and serve others...

